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Der Präsident des Europäischen Patentamts  
Im Auftrag  
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p. o.

Patentanmeldung Nr. PCT/EP 02/14831  
Patent application no.  
Demande de brevet n°

**Blatt 2 der Bescheinigung**  
**Sheet 2 of the certificate**  
**Page 2 de l'attestation**



**Anmeldung Nr.:**  
**Application no.:**  
**Demande n°:**

**PCT/EP 02/14831**

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**Bezeichnung der Erfindung:**  
**Title of the invention:**  
**Titre de l'invention:**

**SUBSTITUTED 1- PIPERIDIN-4-YL-4-PYRROLIDIN-3-YL-PIPERAZINE  
DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE AS TACHYKININ ANTAGONISTS.**

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## PCT REQUEST

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<b>V</b>	<b>Designation of States</b>	
<b>V-1</b>	Regional Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned)	<p>AP: GH GM KE LS MW MZ SD SL SZ TZ UG ZM ZW and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT</p> <p>EA: AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT</p> <p>EP: AT BE BG CH&amp;LI CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE SK TR and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT</p> <p>OA: BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GQ GW ML MR NE SN TD TG and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT</p>
<b>V-2</b>	National Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned)	<p>AE AG AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY BZ CA CH&amp;LI CN CO CR CU CZ DE DK DM DZ EC EE ES FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX MZ NO NZ OM PH PL PT RO RU SC SD SE SG SI SK SL TJ TM TN TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VC VN YU ZA ZM ZW</p>
<b>V-5</b>	<b>Precautionary Designation Statement</b>  In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit.	
<b>V-6</b>	<b>Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations</b>	NONE
<b>VI</b>	<b>Priority claim</b>	NONE
<b>VII-1</b>	<b>International Searching Authority Chosen</b>	European Patent Office (EPO) (ISA/EP)

SUBSTITUTED 1-PIPERIDIN-4-YL-4-PYRROLIDIN-3-YL-PIPERAZINE  
DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE AS TACHYKININ ANTAGONISTS

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5 Field of the Invention

This invention concerns substituted 1-piperidin-4-yl-4-pyrrolidin-3-yl-piperazine derivatives having tachykinin antagonistic activity, in particular NK<sub>1</sub> antagonistic activity, more in particular a combined NK<sub>1</sub>/NK<sub>3</sub> antagonistic activity, their preparation, compositions comprising them and their use as a medicine, in particular for  
10 the treatment of schizophrenia, anxiety, depression, emesis and IBS.

Background of The Invention

Tachykinins belong to a family of short peptides that are widely distributed in the mammalian central and peripheral nervous system (Bertrand and Geppetti, *Trends*  
15 *Pharmacol. Sci.* 17:255-259 (1996) ; Lundberg, *Can. J. Physiol. Pharmacol.* 73:908-914 (1995) ; Maggi, *Gen. Pharmacol.* 26:911-944 (1995) ; Regoli *et al.*, *Pharmacol. Rev.* 46 (1994)). They share the common C-terminal sequence Phe-Xaa-Gly-Leu-Met-NH<sub>2</sub>. Tachykinins released from peripheral sensory nerve endings are believed to be involved in neurogenic inflammation. In the spinal cord/central nervous system,  
20 tachykinins may play a role in pain transmission/perception and in some autonomic reflexes and behaviors. The three major tachykinins are Substance P (SP), Neurokinin A (NK<sub>A</sub>) and Neurokinin B (NK<sub>B</sub>) with preferential affinity for three distinct receptor subtypes, termed NK<sub>1</sub>, NK<sub>2</sub>, and NK<sub>3</sub>, respectively. However, functional studies on cloned receptors suggest strong functional cross-interaction between the 3 tachykinins  
25 and their corresponding receptors (Maggi and Schwartz, *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* 18: 351-355 (1997)).

Species differences in structure of NK<sub>1</sub> receptors are responsible for species-related potency differences of NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists (Maggi, *Gen. Pharmacol.* 26:911-944  
30 (1995) ; Regoli *et al.*, *Pharmacol. Rev.* 46(4):551-599 (1994)). The human NK<sub>1</sub> receptor closely resembles the NK<sub>1</sub> receptor of guinea-pigs and gerbils but differs markedly from the NK<sub>1</sub> receptor of rodents. The development of tachykinin antagonists has led to date to a series of peptide compounds of which might be anticipated that they are metabolically too labile to be employed as pharmaceutically  
35 active substances (Longmore J. *et al.*, *DN&P* 8(1):5-23 (1995)).

The tachykinins are involved in schizophrenia, depression, (stress-related) anxiety

states, emesis, inflammatory responses, smooth muscle contraction and pain perception. Tachykinin antagonists are in development for indications such as emesis, anxiety and depression, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), circadian rhythm disturbances, visceral pain, neurogenic inflammation, asthma, micturition disorders, and nociception. In particular, NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists have a high therapeutic potential in emesis and depression and NK<sub>2</sub> antagonists have a high therapeutic potential in asthma treatments. NK<sub>3</sub> antagonists seem to play a role in the treatment of pain/inflammation (Giardina, G. *et al. Exp. Opin. Ther. Patents*, 10(6): 939-960 (2000)) and schizophrenia.

#### 10 Schizophrenia

The NK<sub>3</sub> antagonist SR142801 (Sanofi) was recently shown to have antipsychotic activity in schizophrenic patients without affecting negative symptoms (Arvantis, L. *ACNP Meeting*, December 2001). Activation of NK<sub>1</sub> receptors causes anxiety, stressfull events evoke elevated substance P (SP) plasma levels and NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists are reported to be anxiolytic in several animal models. The NK<sub>1</sub> antagonist from Merck, MD-869 shows antidepressant effects in major depression, but data were not conclusive due to a high placebo response rate. Moreover, the NK<sub>1</sub> antagonist from Glaxo-Welcome (S)-GR205,171 was shown to enhance dopamine release in the frontal cortex but not in the striatum (Lejeune *et al. Soc. Neurosci.*, November 2001). It is therefore hypothesized that NK<sub>3</sub> antagonism in combination with NK<sub>1</sub> antagonism would be beneficial against both positive and negative symptoms of schizophrenia.

#### Anxiety and depression

Depression is one of the most common affective disorders of modern society with a high and still increasing prevalence, particularly in the younger members of the population. The life time prevalence rates of Major depression (MDD, DSM-IV) is currently estimated to be 10-25 % for women and 5-12 % for men, whereby in about 25 % of patients the life time MDD is recurrent, without full inter-episode recovery and superimposed on dysthymic disorder. There is a high co-morbidity of depression with other mental disorders and, particularly in younger population high association with drug and alcohol abuse. In the view of the fact that depression primarily affects the population between 18-44 years of age e.g. the most productive population, it is obvious that it imposes a high burden on individuals, families and the whole society.

Among all therapeutic possibilities, the therapy with antidepressants is incontestably the most effective. A large number of antidepressants have been developed and introduced to the market in the course of the last 40 years. Nevertheless, none of the current antidepressants fulfill all criteria of an ideal drug (high therapeutic and prophylactic efficacy, rapid onset of action, completely satisfactory short- and long-term safety, simple and favourable pharmacokinetics) or is without side effects which in one or the other way limits their use in all groups and subgroups of depressed patients.

10 Since no treatment of the cause of depression exists at present, nor appears imminent, and no antidepressant is effective in more than 60-70 % of patients; the development of a new antidepressant which may circumvent any of the disadvantages of the available drugs is justified.

15 Several findings indicate involvement of SP in stress-related anxiety states. Central injection of SP induces a cardiovascular response resembling the classical "fight or flight" reaction characterised physiologically by vascular dilatation in skeletal muscles and decrease of mesenteric and renal blood flow. This cardiovascular reaction is accompanied by a behavioural response observed in rodents after noxious stimuli or stress (Culman and Unger, *Can. J. Physiol. Pharmacol.* 73:885-891 (1995)). In mice, centrally administered NK<sub>1</sub> agonists and antagonists are anxiogenic and anxiolytic, respectively (Teixeira *et al.*, *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 311:7-14 (1996)). The ability of NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists to inhibit thumping induced by SP (or by electric shock; Ballard *et al.*, *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* 17:255-259 (2001)) might correspond to this antidepressant /  
20 anxiolytic activity, since in gerbils thumping plays a role as an alerting or warning signal to conspecifics.

The NK<sub>1</sub> receptor is widely distributed throughout the limbic system and fear-processing pathways of the brain, including the amygdala, hippocampus, septum, hypothalamus, and periaqueductal grey. Additionally, substance P is released centrally in response to traumatic or noxious stimuli and substance P-associated neurotransmission may contribute to or be involved in anxiety, fear, and the emotional disturbances that accompany affective disorders such as depression and anxiety. In support of this view, changes in substance P content in discrete brain regions can be  
30 observed in response to stressful stimuli (Brodin *et al.*, *Neuropeptides* 26:253-260 (1994)).

Central injection of substance P mimetics (agonists) induces a range of defensive behavioural and cardiovascular alterations including conditioned place aversion (Elliott, *Exp. Brain. Res.* 73:354-356 (1988)), potentiated acoustic startle response (Krase *et al.*, *Behav. Brain. Res.* 63:81-88 (1994)), distress vocalisations, escape behaviour (Kramer *et al.*, *Science* 281:1640-1645 (1998)) and anxiety on the elevated plus maze (Aguiar and Brandao, *Physiol. Behav.* 60:1183-1186 (1996)). These compounds did not modify motor performance and co-ordination on the rotarod apparatus or ambulation in an activity cage. Down-regulation of substance P biosynthesis occurs in response to the administration of known anxiolytic and antidepressant drugs (Brodin *et al.*, *Neuropeptides* 26:253-260 (1994) ; Shirayama *et al.*, *Brain. Res.* 739:70-78 (1996)). Similarly, a centrally administered NK<sub>1</sub> agonist-induced vocalisation response in guinea-pigs can be antagonised by antidepressants such as imipramine and fluoxetine as well as L-733,060, an NK<sub>1</sub> antagonist. These studies provide evidence suggesting that blockade of central NK<sub>1</sub> receptors may inhibit psychological stress in a manner resembling antidepressants and anxiolytics (Rupniak and Kramer, *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* 20:1-12 (1999)), but without the side effects of present medications. This is supported by data demonstrating that aprepitant is a clinically efficacious antidepressant with significant anxiolytic activity in a randomised double-blind placebo-controlled study (Kramer *et al.*, *Science* 281:1640-1645 (1998)).

### Emesis

Nausea and vomiting are among the most distressing side effects of cancer chemotherapy. These reduce the quality of life and may cause patients to delay or refuse, potentially curative drugs (Kris *et al.*, *J. Clin. Oncol.*, 3:1379-1384 (1985)). The incidence, intensity and pattern of emesis is determined by different factors, such as the chemotherapeutic agent, dosage and route of administration. Typically, early or acute emesis starts within the first 4 h after chemotherapy administration, reaching a peak between 4 h and 10 h, and decreases by 12 to 24 h. Delayed emesis (developing after 24 h and continuing until 3-5 days post chemotherapy) is observed with most 'high-emetogenic' chemotherapeutic drugs (level 4 and 5 according to Hesketh *et al.*, *J. Clin. Oncol.* 15:103 (1997)). In humans, these 'high-emetogenic' anti-cancer treatments, including cis-platinum, induce acute emesis in > 98% and delayed emesis in 60-90% of cancer patients.

Animal models of chemotherapy such as cisplatin-induced emesis in ferrets (Rudd and Naylor, *Neuropharmacology* 33:1607-1608 (1994) ; Naylor and Rudd, *Cancer. Surv.* 21:117-135 (1996)) have successfully predicted the clinical efficacy of

the 5-HT<sub>3</sub> receptor antagonists. Although this discovery led to a successful therapy for the treatment of chemotherapy- and radiation-induced sickness in cancer patients, 5-HT<sub>3</sub> antagonists such as ondansetron and granisetron (either or not associated with dexamethasone) are effective in the control of the acute emetic phase (the first 24 h) but can only reduce the development of delayed emesis (> 24 h) with poor efficacy (De Mulder *et al.*, *Annals of Internal Medicine* 113:834-840 (1990) ; Roila, *Oncology* 50:163-167 (1993)). Despite these currently most effective treatments for the prevention of both acute and delayed emesis, still 50% of patients suffer from delayed vomiting and/or nausea (Antiemetic Subcommittee, *Annals Oncol.* 9:811-819 (1998)).

In contrast to 5-HT<sub>3</sub> antagonists, NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists such as CP-99,994 (Piedimonte *et al.*, *L. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 266:270-273 (1993)) and aprepitant (also known as MK-869 or L-754,030 ; Kramer *et al.*, *Science* 281:1640-1645 (1998) ; Rupniak and Kramer, *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* 20:1-12 (1999)) have now been shown to inhibit not only the acute but also the delayed phase of cisplatin-induced emesis in animals (Rudd *et al.*, *Br. J. Pharmacol.* 119:931-936 (1996) ; Tattersall *et al.*, *Neuropharmacology* 39:652-663 (2000)). NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists have also been demonstrated to reduce 'delayed' emesis in man in the absence of concomitant therapy (Cocquyt *et al.*, *Eur. J. Cancer* 37:835-842 (2001) ; Navari *et al.*, *N. Engl. J. Med.* 340:190-195 (1999)). When administered together with dexamethasone and 5-HT<sub>3</sub> antagonists, moreover, NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists (such as MK-869 and CJ-11,974, also known as Ezlopitant) have been shown to produce additional effects in the prevention of acute emesis (Campos *et al.*, *J. Clin. Oncol.* 19:1759-1767 (2001) ; Hesketh *et al.*, *Clin. Oncol.* 17:338-343 (1999)).

Central tachykinin NK<sub>1</sub> receptors play a major role in the regulation of emesis. NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists are active against a wide variety of emetic stimuli (Watson *et al.*, *Br. J. Pharmacol.* 115:84-94 (1995) ; Tattersall *et al.*, *Neuropharmacol.* 35:1121-1129 (1996) ; Megens *et al.*, *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 302:696-709 (2002)). The compounds are suggested to act by blocking central NK<sub>1</sub>-receptors in the nucleus tractus solitarius. Apart from NK<sub>1</sub> antagonism, CNS penetration is thus a prerequisite for the antiemetic activity of these compounds. Loperamide-induced emesis in ferrets can be used as a fast and reliable screening model for the antiemetic activity of NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists. Further evaluation of their therapeutic value in the treatment of both the acute and the delayed phases of cisplatin-induced emesis has been demonstrated in the established ferret model (Rudd *et al.*, *Br. J. Pharmacol.* 119:931-936 (1994)). This model studies both 'acute' and 'delayed' emesis after cisplatin and has been validated in terms of its sensitivity to 5-HT<sub>3</sub> receptor antagonists, glucocorticoids (Sam *et al.*, *Eur. J.*



*Pharmacol.* 417:231-237 (2001)) and other pharmacological challenges. It is unlikely that any future anti-emetic would find clinical acceptance unless successfully treating both the 'acute' and 'delayed' phases of emesis.

5    Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)

Patients with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) experience impaired quality of life, and utilise health care resources extensively as they seek better "solutions" (including unnecessary repeated investigations or even surgery). Although these patients suffer from a 'benign' disorder (in other words, they will never die or develop significant complications), they nevertheless cause a significant economic burden by extensive health care resource utilisation, and absence from work.

A reasonable number of pre-clinical publications over the role of NK<sub>1</sub> receptors in visceral pain has been published. Using NK<sub>1</sub> receptor knockout mice and NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists in animal models, different groups have demonstrated the important role played by the NK<sub>1</sub> receptor in hyperalgesia and visceral pain. The distribution of NK<sub>1</sub> receptors and substance P favours a major role in visceral rather than in somatic pain. Indeed more than 80% of visceral primary afferent contain substance P compared with only 25% skin afferents. NK<sub>1</sub> receptors are also involved in gastrointestinal motility (Tonini *et al.*, *Gastroenterol.* 120:938-945 (2001) ; Okano *et al.*, *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 298:559-564 (2001)). Because of this dual role in both gastrointestinal motility and in nociception, NK<sub>1</sub> antagonists are considered to have potential to ameliorate symptoms in IBS patients.

25    Background prior art

Compounds containing the 1-piperidin-4-yl-piperazinyl moiety were published in WO 97/16440-A1, published May 9, 1997 by Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V. for use as substance P antagonists, in WO 02/32867, published April 25, 2002 by Glaxo Group Ltd. for their special advantages as tachykinin antagonists (more specifically were disclosed 4-piperazin-1-yl-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid amide derivatives), in WO 01/30348-A1, published May 03, 2001 by Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V., for use as substance P antagonists for influencing the circadian timing system, and in WO 02/062784-A1, published August 15, 2002 by Hoffmann-La Roche AG for use as neurokinin-1 antagonists.

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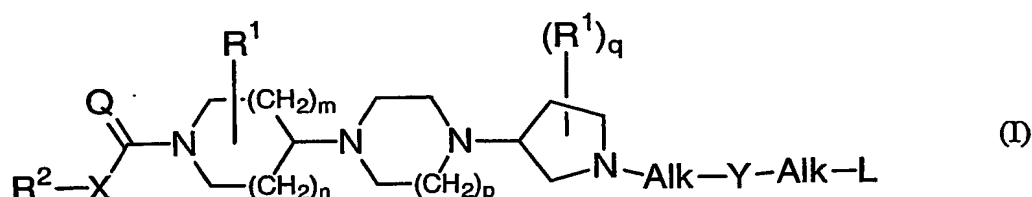
The compounds of the present invention differ from the compounds of the prior art in the substitution of the piperazinyl moiety, being a substituted pyrrolidinyl moiety

as well as in their improved ability as potent, orally and centrally active tachykinin antagonists with therapeutic value, especially for the treatment of emesis, anxiety and depression, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), circadian rhythm disturbances, visceral pain, neurogenic inflammation, asthma, micturition disorders, and nociception.

5

# Description of the Invention

The present invention relates to novel substituted 1-piperidin-4-yl-4-pyrrolidin-3-yl-piperazine derivatives according to the general Formula (I)



10

the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and prodrugs thereof, wherein :

*n* is an integer, equal to 0, 1 or 2 ;

*m* is an integer, equal to 1 or 2, provided that if *m* is 2, then *n* is 1 ;

15 *p* is an integer equal to 1 or 2 ;

*Q* is O or NR<sup>3</sup> ;

*X* is a covalent bond or a bivalent radical of formula -O-, -S- or -NR<sup>3</sup>- ;

each R<sup>3</sup> independently from each other, is hydrogen or alkyl ;

each R<sup>1</sup> independently from each other, is selected from the group of Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>1</sup>-

20 alkyl and di(Ar<sup>1</sup>)-alkyl ;

*q* is an integer equal to 0 or 1 ;

R<sup>2</sup> is alkyl, Ar<sup>2</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>-alkyl, Het<sup>1</sup> or Het<sup>1</sup>-alkyl ;

*Y* is a covalent bond or a bivalent radical of formula -C(=O)- or -SO<sub>2</sub>-;

each Alk represents, independently from each other, a covalent bond ; a bivalent straight or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms ; or a cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms ; each radical optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more alkyl, phenyl, halo, cyano, hydroxy, formyl and amino radicals ;

30 *L* is selected from the group of hydrogen, alkyloxy, Ar<sup>3</sup>-oxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, mono- and di(alkyl)amino, mono-and di(Ar<sup>3</sup>)amino, Ar<sup>3</sup>, Ar<sup>3</sup>carbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup> and Het<sup>2</sup>carbonyl ;

- Ar<sup>1</sup> is phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other, selected from the group of halo, alkyl, cyano, aminocarbonyl and alkyloxy ;
- 5 Ar<sup>2</sup> is naphthalenyl or phenyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other, selected from the group of halo, nitro, amino, mono- and di(alkyl)amino, cyano, alkyl, hydroxy, alkyloxy, carboxyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl and mono- and di(alkyl)aminocarbonyl ;
- 10 Ar<sup>3</sup> is naphthalenyl or phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other, selected from the group of alkyloxy, alkyl, halo, hydroxy, pyridinyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridinyl, morpholinylcarbonyl, pyrrolidinylcarbonyl, amino and cyano ;
- 15 Het<sup>1</sup> is a monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the the group of pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl and pyridazinyl ; or a bicyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of quinolinyl, quinoxalinyl, indolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl and 4a,8a-dihydro-2*H*-chromenyl ; each heterocyclic radical may optionally be
- 20 substituted on any atom by a radical selected from the group of halo, oxo and alkyl ;
- Het<sup>2</sup> is a monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of pyrrolidinyl, dioxolyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, piperidinyl, dioxyl, morpholinyl, dithianyl, thiomorpholinyl, piperazinyl, imidazolidinyl,
- 25 tetrahydrofuranyl, 2*H*-pyrrolyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolinyl, pyrazolinyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl and triazinyl ; or a bicyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of benzopiperidinyl, quinolinyl, quinoxalinyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, chromenyl, benzimidazolyl, imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridinyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, benzo [1,2,5]oxadiazolyl, imidazo-
- 30 [2,1-*b*]thiazolyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzo[1,4]dioxyl and octahydrobenzo-[1,4]dioxyl ; each radical optionally substituted with one or more radicals selected from the group of Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>1</sup>alkyl, halo, hydroxy, alkyl, piperidinyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, oxo, oxazolyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl and
- 35 alkyloxycarbonyl ; and

alkyl is a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radicals having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms ; optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more radicals selected from the group of phenyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, formyl and amino.

More in particular, the invention relates to a compound according to the general Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and a prodrug thereof, wherein :

n is 1 ;

m is 1 ;

p is 1 or 2 ;

Q is O ;

X is a covalent bond ;

each R<sup>1</sup> is Ar<sup>1</sup> or Ar<sup>1</sup>-alkyl ;

q is 0 ;

R<sup>2</sup> is Het<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup> or Ar<sup>2</sup>-alkyl ;

Y is a covalent bond or a bivalent radical of formula -C(=O)- or -SO<sub>2</sub>-;

each Alk represents, independently from each other, a covalent bond ; a bivalent straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms ; or a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms ; each radical optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more alkyl, phenyl or halo radicals ;

L is selected from the group of hydrogen, alkyloxy, Ar<sup>3</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup> and Het<sup>2</sup>carbonyl ;

Ar<sup>1</sup> is phenyl, optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents, each independently from each other selected from the group of halo and alkyl ;

Ar<sup>2</sup> is naphthalenyl or phenyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other, selected from the group of halo alkyl and alkyloxy ;

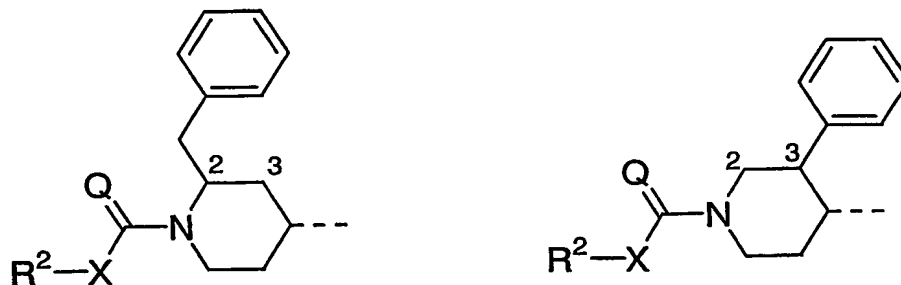
Ar<sup>3</sup> is naphthalenyl or phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other selected from the group of alkyloxy, alkyl, halo and cyano ;

Het<sup>1</sup> is benzothienyl, quinoxaliny, pyridinyl, indolyl or 4a,8a-dihydro-2H-chromenyl ; each heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted on any atom by an alkyl or oxo radical ;

Het<sup>2</sup> is a monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of pyrrolidinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, piperazinyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl and pyridazinyl ; or a bicyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of quinoxalinyl, indolyl, chromenyl, benzimidazolyl, imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridinyl, benzothiazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothieryl, 2,3-dihydrobenzo[1,4]dioxine and octahydrobenzo-[1,4]dioxine ; each radical optionally substituted with one or more radicals selected from the group of Ar<sup>1</sup>, halo, alkyl, oxo, alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl and alkyloxycarbonyl ; and

alkyl is a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms ; optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more halo radicals.

More in particular, the invention relates to a compound according to the general Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and a prodrug thereof, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is Ar<sup>1</sup>methyl and attached to the 2-position or R<sup>1</sup> is Ar<sup>1</sup> and attached to the 3-position, as exemplified in either of the following formulas for compounds according to Formula (I) wherein m and n are equal to 1 and Ar is an unsubstituted phenyl. Preferably, Ar<sup>1</sup>methyl is an unsubstituted benzyl radical.



More in particular, the invention relates to a compound according to the general Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and a prodrug thereof, wherein the R<sup>2</sup>-X-C(=Q)- moiety is 3,5-di-(trifluoromethyl) phenylcarbonyl.

In the framework of this application, alkyl is defined as a monovalent straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, for example methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, 1-methylpropyl, 1,1-dimethylethyl, pentyl, hexyl ; alkyl

further defines a monovalent cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms, for example cyclopropyl, methylcyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl. The definition of alkyl also comprises an alkyl radical that is optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more phenyl, halo, cyano, oxo,  
5 hydroxy, formyl and amino radicals, for example hydroxyalkyl, in particular hydroxymethyl and hydroxyethyl and polyhaloalkyl, in particular difluoromethyl and trifluoromethyl.

10 In the framework of this application, halo is generic to fluoro, chloro, bromo and iodo.

In the framework of this application, with "compounds according to the invention" is meant a compound according to the general Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically  
15 isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and a prodrug thereof.

In the framework of this application, especially in the moiety  $\text{Alk}^a\text{-Y-Alk}^b$  in Formula (I), when two or more consecutive elements of said moiety denote a covalent bond, then a single covalent bond is denoted. For example, when  $\text{Alk}^a$  and Y denote  
20 both a covalent bond and  $\text{Alk}^b$  is  $\text{CH}_2$ , then the moiety  $\text{Alk}^a\text{-Y-Alk}^b$  denotes  $-\text{CH}_2$ .

The pharmaceutically acceptable salts are defined to comprise the therapeutically active non-toxic acid addition salts forms that the compounds according to Formula (I) are able to form. Said salts can be obtained by treating the base form of the compounds  
25 according to Formula (I) with appropriate acids, for example inorganic acids, for example hydrohalic acid, in particular hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid and phosphoric acid ; organic acids, for example acetic acid, hydroxyacetic acid, propanoic acid, lactic acid, pyruvic acid, oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, malic acid, tartaric acid, citric acid,  
30 methanesulfonic acid, ethanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, cyclamic acid, salicylic acid, p-aminosalicylic acid and pamoic acid.

The compounds according to Formula (I) containing acidic protons may also be converted into their therapeutically active non-toxic metal or amine addition salts forms  
35 by treatment with appropriate organic and inorganic bases. Appropriate base salts forms comprise, for example, the ammonium salts, the alkaline and earth alkaline metal salts, in particular lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium and calcium salts, salts with

organic bases, e.g. the benzathine, *N*-methyl-D-glucamine, hybramine salts, and salts with amino acids, for example arginine and lysine.

5       Conversely, said salts forms can be converted into the free forms by treatment with an appropriate base or acid.

The term addition salt as used in the framework of this application also comprises the solvates that the compounds according to Formula (I) as well as the salts thereof, are able to form. Such solvates are, for example, hydrates and alcoholates.

10

The *N*-oxide forms of the compounds according to Formula (I) are meant to comprise those compounds of Formula (I) wherein one or several nitrogen atoms are oxidized to the so-called *N*-oxide, particularly those *N*-oxides wherein one or more tertiary nitrogens (e.g. of the piperazinyll or piperidinyll radical) are *N*-oxidized. Such *N*-oxides can easily be obtained by a skilled person without any inventive skills and they are obvious alternatives for the compounds according to Formula (I) since these compounds are metabolites, which are formed by oxidation in the human body upon uptake. As is generally known, oxidation is normally the first step involved in drug metabolism (Textbook of Organic Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, 1977, pages 70- 75). As is also generally known, the metabolite form of a compound can also be administered to a human instead of the compound per se, with much the same effects.

15  
20

The compounds according to the invention possess at least 2 oxydizable nitrogens (tertiary amines moieties). It is therefore highly likely that *N*-oxides will form in the human metabolism.

25

The compounds of Formula (I) may be converted to the corresponding *N*-oxide forms following art-known procedures for converting a trivalent nitrogen into its *N*-oxide form. Said *N*-oxidation reaction may generally be carried out by reacting the starting material of Formula (I) with an appropriate organic or inorganic peroxide. Appropriate inorganic peroxides comprise, for example, hydrogen peroxide, alkali metal or earth alkaline metal peroxides, e.g. sodium peroxide, potassium peroxide; appropriate organic peroxides may comprise peroxy acids such as, for example, benzenecarboperoxoic acid or halo substituted benzenecarboperoxoic acid, e.g. 3-chlorobenzenecarboperoxoic acid, peroalkanoic acids, e.g. peroacetic acid, alkylhydroperoxides, e.g. *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide. Suitable solvents are, for example,

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water, lower alkanols, e.g. ethanol and the like, hydrocarbons, e.g. toluene, ketones, e.g. 2-butanone, halogenated hydrocarbons, e.g. dichloromethane, and mixtures of such solvents.

5       The term "stereochemically isomeric forms" as used hereinbefore defines all the possible isomeric forms that the compounds of Formula (I) may possess. Unless otherwise mentioned or indicated, the chemical designation of compounds denotes the mixture of all possible stereochemically isomeric forms, said mixtures containing all diastereomers and enantiomers of the basic molecular structure. More in particular,  
10       stereogenic centers may have the R- or S-configuration; substituents on bivalent cyclic (partially) saturated radicals may have either the cis- or trans-configuration. Compounds encompassing double bonds can have an E or Z-stereochemistry at said double bond. Stereochemically isomeric forms of the compounds of Formula (I) are obviously intended to be embraced within the scope of this invention.

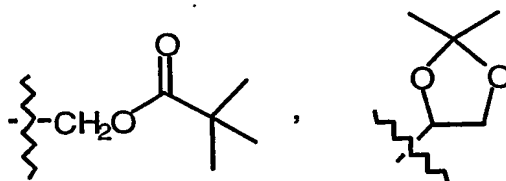
15       Following CAS nomenclature conventions, when two stereogenic centers of known absolute configuration are present in a molecule, an R or S descriptor is assigned (based on Cahn-Ingold-Prelog sequence rule) to the lowest-numbered chiral center, the reference center. The configuration of the second stereogenic center is indicated using  
20       relative descriptors [R\*,R\*] or [R\*,S\*], where R\* is always specified as the reference center and [R\*,R\*] indicates centers with the same chirality and [R\*,S\*] indicates centers of unlike chirality. For example, if the lowest-numbered chiral center in the molecule has an S configuration and the second center is R, the stereo descriptor would be specified as S-[R\*,S\*]. If "α" and "β" are used : the position of the highest priority  
25       substituent on the asymmetric carbon atom in the ring system having the lowest ring number, is arbitrarily always in the "α" position of the mean plane determined by the ring system. The position of the highest priority substituent on the other asymmetric carbon atom in the ring system (hydrogen atom in compounds according to Formula (I)) relative to the position of the highest priority substituent on the reference atom is  
30       denominated "α", if it is on the same side of the mean plane determined by the ring system, or "β", if it is on the other side of the mean plane determined by the ring system.

35       Compounds according to Formula (I) and some of the intermediate compounds have at least two stereogenic centers in their structure.



The invention also comprises derivative compounds (usually called "pro-drugs") of the pharmacologically-active compounds according to the invention, which are degraded *in vivo* to yield the compounds according to the invention. Pro-drugs are usually (but not always) of lower potency at the target receptor than the compounds to which they are degraded. Pro-drugs are particularly useful when the desired compound has chemical or physical properties that make its administration difficult or inefficient. For example, the desired compound may be only poorly soluble, it may be poorly transported across the mucosal epithelium, or it may have an undesirably short plasma half-life. Further discussion on pro-drugs may be found in Stella, V. J. *et al.*, "Prodrugs", *Drug Delivery Systems*, 1985, pp. 112-176, and *Drugs*, 1985, 29, pp. 455-473.

Pro-drugs forms of the pharmacologically-active compounds according to the invention will generally be compounds according to Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof and the *N*-oxide form thereof, having an acid group which is esterified or amidated. Included in such esterified acid groups are groups of the formula  $-\text{COOR}^x$ , where  $\text{R}^x$  is a  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or one of the following groups :



Amidated groups include groups of the formula  $-\text{CONR}^y\text{R}^z$ , wherein  $\text{R}^y$  is H,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl, phenyl or benzyl and  $\text{R}^z$  is  $-\text{OH}$ , H,  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl, phenyl or benzyl. Compounds according to the invention having an amino group may be derivatised with a ketone or an aldehyde such as formaldehyde to form a Mannich base. This base will hydrolyze with first order kinetics in aqueous solution.

The compounds of Formula (I) as prepared in the processes described below may be synthesized in the form of racemic mixtures of enantiomers that can be separated from one another following art-known resolution procedures. The racemic compounds of Formula (I) may be converted into the corresponding diastereomeric salt forms by reaction with a suitable chiral acid. Said diastereomeric salt forms are subsequently separated, for example, by selective or fractional crystallization and the enantiomers are liberated therefrom by alkali. An alternative manner of separating the enantiomeric

forms of the compounds of Formula (I) involves liquid chromatography using a chiral stationary phase. Said pure stereochemically isomeric forms may also be derived from the corresponding pure stereochemically isomeric forms of the appropriate starting materials, provided that the reaction occurs stereospecifically. Preferably if a specific stereoisomer is desired, said compound would be synthesized by stereospecific methods of preparation. These methods will advantageously employ enantiomerically pure starting materials.

### Pharmacology

Substance P and other neurokinins are involved in a variety of biological actions such as pain transmission (nociception), neurogenic inflammation, smooth muscle contraction, plasma protein extravasation, vasodilation, secretion, mast cell degranulation, and also in activation of the immune system. A number of diseases are deemed to be engendered by activation of neurokinin receptors, in particular the NK<sub>1</sub> receptor, by excessive release of substance P and other neurokinins in particular cells such as cells in the neuronal plexi of the gastrointestinal tract, unmyelinated primary sensory afferent neurons, sympathetic and parasympathetic neurons and nonneuronal cell types (DN&P 8(1):5-23 (1995) and Longmore J. *et al.*, "Neurokinin Receptors" *Pharmacological Reviews* 46(4):551-599 (1994)).

The compounds of the present invention are potent inhibitors of neurokinin-mediated effects, in particular those mediated via the NK<sub>1</sub> and NK<sub>3</sub> receptor, and may therefore be described as tachykinin antagonists, especially as substance P antagonists, as may be indicated *in vitro* by the antagonism of substance P-induced relaxation of pig coronary arteries. The binding affinity of the present compounds for the human, guinea-pig and gerbil neurokinin receptors may also be determined *in vitro* in a receptor binding test using <sup>3</sup>H-substance-P as radioligand. The subject compounds also show substance-P antagonistic activity *in vivo* as may be evidenced by, for instance, the antagonism of substance P-induced plasma extravasation in guinea-pigs, or the antagonism of drug-induced emesis in ferrets (Watson *et al.*, *Br. J. Pharmacol.* 115:84-94 (1995)).

In view of their capability to antagonize the actions of tachykinins by blocking the tachykinin receptors, and in particular by blocking the NK<sub>1</sub> and NK<sub>3</sub> receptor, the compounds according to the invention are useful as a medicine, in particular in the prophylactic and therapeutic treatment of tachykinin-mediated conditions.

The invention therefore relates to a compound according to the general Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and prodrugs thereof, for use as a medicine.

5

The invention also relates to the use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-3 for the manufacture of a medicament for treating, either prophylactic or therapeutic or both, tachykinin mediated conditions.

10

The compounds according to the invention are useful in the treatment of CNS disorders, in particular schizoaffective disorders, depression, anxiety disorders, stress-related disorders, sleep disorders, cognitive disorders, personality disorders, eating disorders, neurodegenerative diseases, addiction disorders, mood disorders, sexual dysfunction, pain and other CNS-related conditions ; inflammation ; allergic disorders ; emesis ; gastrointestinal disorders, in particular irritable bowel syndrome (IBS); skin disorders ; vasospastic diseases ; fibrosing and collagen diseases ; disorders related to immune enhancement or suppression and rheumatic diseases and body weight control.

15

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are useful in the treatment or prevention of schizoaffective disorders resulting from various causes, including schizoaffective disorders of the manic type, of the depressive type, of mixed type ; paranoid, disorganized, catatonic, undifferentiated and residual schizophrenia ; schizophreniform disorder ; schizoaffective disorder ; delusional disorder ; brief psychotic disorder ; shared psychotic disorder ; substance-induced psychotic disorder ; and psychotic disorder not otherwise specified.

25

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are useful in the treatment or prevention of depression including but not limited to major depressive disorders including bipolar depression ; unipolar depression ; single or recurrent major depressive episodes with or without psychotic features, catatonic features, melancholic features, atypical features or postpartum onset, and, in the case of recurrent episodes, with or without seasonal pattern. Other mood disorders encompassed within the term "major depressive disorder" include dysthymic disorder with early or late onset and with or without atypical features, bipolar I disorder, bipolar II disorder, cyclothymic disorder, recurrent brief depressive disorder, mixed affective disorder, neurotic depression, post traumatic stress disorder and social phobia ; dementia of the Alzheimer's type with early or late onset, with depressed mood ; vascular dementia with

30

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depressed mood ; substance-induced mood disorders such as mood disorders induced by alcohol, amphetamines, cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants, opioids, phencyclidine, sedatives, hypnotics, anxiolytics and other substances ; schizoaffective disorder of the depressed type ; and adjustment disorder with depressed mood. Major depressive disorders may also result from a general medical condition including, but not limited to, myocardial infarction, diabetes, miscarriage or abortion, etc.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are useful in the treatment or prevention of anxiety disorders, including but not limited to panic attack ; agoraphobia ; panic disorder without agoraphobia ; agoraphobia without history of panic disorder ; specific phobia ; social phobia ; obsessive-compulsive disorder ; post-traumatic stress disorder ; acute stress disorder ; generalized anxiety disorder ; anxiety disorder due to a general medical condition ; substance-induced anxiety disorder ; and anxiety disorder not otherwise specified.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are useful in the treatment or prevention of stress-related disorders associated with depression and/or anxiety, including but not limited to acute stress reaction ; adjustment disorders, such as brief depressive reaction, prolonged depressive reaction, mixed anxiety and depressive reaction, adjustment disorder with predominant disturbance of other emotions, adjustment disorder with predominant disturbance of conduct, adjustment disorder with mixed disturbance of emotions and conduct and adjustment disorders with other specified predominant symptoms ; and other reactions to severe stress.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are useful in the treatment or prevention of sleep disorders, including but not limited to dysomnia and/or parasomnias as primary sleep disorders ; insomnia ; sleep apnea ; narcolepsy ; circadian rhythms disorders ; sleep disorders related to another mental disorder ; sleep disorder due to a general medical condition ; and substance-induced sleep disorder.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are useful in the treatment or prevention of cognitive disorders, including but not limited to dementia ; amnesic disorders and cognitive disorders not otherwise specified, especially dementia caused by degenerative disorders, lesions, trauma, infections, vascular disorders, toxins, anoxia, vitamin deficiency or endocrinic disorders ; dementia of the Alzheimer's type, with early or late onset, with depressed mood ; AIDS-associated dementia or amnesic disorders caused by alcohol or other causes of thiamin deficiency, bilateral temporal

lobe damage due to Herpes simplex encephalitis and other limbic encephalitis, neuronal loss secondary to anoxia / hypoglycemia / severe convulsions and surgery, degenerative disorders, vascular disorders or pathology around ventricle III. Furthermore, the compounds according to the invention are also useful as memory and/or cognition enhancers in healthy humans with no cognitive and/or memory deficit.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are useful in the treatment or prevention of personality disorders, including but not limited to paranoid personality disorder ; schizoid personality disorder ; schizotypal personality disorder ; antisocial personality disorder ; borderline personality disorder ; histrionic personality disorder ; narcissistic personality disorder ; avoidant personality disorder ; dependent personality disorder ; obsessive-compulsive personality disorder and personality disorder not otherwise specified.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of eating disorders, including anorexia nervosa ; atypical anorexia nervosa ; bulimia nervosa ; atypical bulimia nervosa ; overeating associated with other psychological disturbances ; vomiting associated with other psychological disturbances ; and non-specified eating disorders.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of neurodegenerative diseases, including but not limited to Alzheimer's disease ; Huntington's chorea ; Creutzfeld-Jacob disease ; Pick's disease ; demyelinating disorders, such as multiple sclerosis and ALS ; other neuropathies and neuralgia ; multiple sclerosis ; amyotropical lateral sclerosis ; stroke and head trauma.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of addiction disorders, including but not limited to substance dependence or abuse with or without physiological dependence, particularly where the substance is alcohol, amphetamines, amphetamine-like substances, caffeine, cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants, nicotine, opioids (such as cannabis, heroin and morphine), phencyclidine, phencyclidine-like compounds, sedative-hypnotics, benzodiazepines and/or other substances, particularly useful for treating withdrawal from the above substances and alcohol withdrawal delirium.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of mood disorders induced particularly by alcohol,

amphetamines, caffeine, cannabis, cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants, nicotine, opioids, phencyclidine, sedatives, hypnotics, anxiolytics and other substances.

5 In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of sexual dysfunction, including but not limited to sexual desire disorders ; sexual arousal disorders ; orgasmic disorders ; sexual pain disorders ; sexual dysfunction due to a general medical condition ; substance-induced sexual dysfunction and sexual dysfunction not otherwise specified.

10 In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of pain, including but not limited to traumatic pain such as postoperative pain ; traumatic avulsion pain such as brachial plexus ; chronic pain such as arthritic pain such as occurring in osteo- rheumatoid or psoriatic arthritis ;  
15 neuropathic pain such as post-herpetic neuralgia, trigeminal neuralgia, segmental or intercostal neuralgia, fibromyalgia, causalgia, peripheral neuropathy, diabetic neuropathy, chemotherapy-induced neuropathy, AIDS related neuropathy, occipital neuralgia, geniculate neuralgia, glossopharyngeal neuralgia, reflex sympathetic dystrophy and phantom limb pain ; various forms of headache such as migraine, acute or chronic tension headache, temporomandibular pain, maxillary sinus pain and cluster  
20 headache ; odontalgia ; cancer pain ; visceral pain ; gastrointestinal pain ; nerve entrapment pain ; sport's injury pain ; dysmennorrhoea ; menstrual pain ; meningitis ; arachnoiditis ; musculoskeletal pain ; low back pain such as spinal stenosis, prolapsed disc, sciatica, angina, ankylosing spondylitis ; gout ; burns ; scar pain ; itch ; and thalamic pain such as post stroke thalamic pain.

25 In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of the following other CNS-related conditions : akinesia, akinetic-rigid syndromes, dyskinesia and medication-induced parkinsonism, Gilles de la Tourette syndrome and its symptoms, tremor, chorea, myoclonus, tics and dystonia,  
30 attention-deficit / hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), Parkinson's disease, drug-induced Parkinsonism, post-encephalitic Parkinsonism, progressive supranuclear palsy, multiple system atrophy, corticobasal degeneration, parkinsonism-ALS dementia complex and basal ganglia calcification, behavioral disturbances and conduct disorders in dementia and the mentally retarded, including restlessness and agitation, extra-pyramidal  
35 movement disorders, Down's syndrome and Akathisia.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of inflammation, including but not limited to inflammatory conditions in asthma, influenza, chronic bronchitis and rheumatoid arthritis ; inflammatory conditions in the gastrointestinal tract such as, but not limited to Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, inflammatory bowel disease and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug induced damage ; inflammatory conditions of the skin such as herpes and eczema ; inflammatory conditions of the bladder such as cystitis and urge incontinence ; eye and dental inflammation and pancreatitis, in particular chronic and acute pancreatitis.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of allergic disorders, including but not limited to allergic disorders of the skin such as but not limited to urticaria ; and allergic disorders of the airways such as but not limited to rhinitis.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of emesis, i.e. nausea, retching and vomiting, including but not limited to acute emesis, delayed emesis and anticipatory emesis ; emesis induced by drugs such as cancer chemotherapeutic agents such as alkylating agents, for example cyclophosphamide, carmustine, lomustine and chlorambucil ; cytotoxic antibiotics, for example dactinomycin, doxorubicin, mitomycin-C and bleomycin ; anti-metabolites, for example cytarabine, methotrexate and 5-fluorouracil ; vinca alkaloids, for example etoposide, vinblastine and vincristine ; and other drugs such as cisplatin, dacarbazine, procarbazine and hydroxyurea ; and combinations thereof ; radiation sickness ; radiation therapy, such as in the treatment of cancer ; poisons ; toxins such as toxins caused by metabolic disorders or by infection, such as gastritis, or released during bacterial or viral gastrointestinal infection ; pregnancy ; vestibular disorders, such as motion sickness, vertigo, dizziness and Meniere's disease ; post-operative sickness ; gastrointestinal obstruction ; reduced gastrointestinal motility ; visceral pain, such as myocardial infarction or peritonitis ; migraine ; increased intracranial pressure ; decreased intracranial pressure (such as altitude sickness) ; opioid analgesics, such as morphine ; gastro-oesophageal reflux disease ; acid indigestion ; over-indulgence of food or drink ; acid stomach ; sour stomach ; waterbrash/regurgitation ; heartburn, such as episodic heartburn, nocturnal heartburn and meal induced heartburn ; and dyspepsia.

In particular, the compounds according to the invention are also useful in the treatment or prevention of gastrointestinal disorders, including but not limited to

irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), skin disorders such as psoriasis, pruritis and sunburn ;  
vasospastic diseases such as angina, vascular headache and Reynaud's disease, cerebral  
ischaemia such as cerebral vasospasm following subarachnoid haemorrhage ; fibrosing  
and collagen diseases such as scleroderma and eosinophilic fascioliasis ; disorders  
5 related to immune enhancement or suppression such as systemic lupus erythematosus  
and rheumatic diseases such as fibrositis ; cough ; and body weight control, including  
obesity.

The present invention also relates to a method for the treatment and/or  
10 prophylaxis of tachykinin-mediated diseases, in particular for the treatment and/or  
prophylaxis of schizophrenia, depression, anxiety disorders, emesis and irritable bowel  
syndrome (IBS) comprising administering to a human in need of such administration an  
effective amount of a compound according to the invention, in particular according to  
Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the  
15 stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof, as well as the pro-  
drugs thereof.

The invention also relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a  
pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and, as active ingredient, a therapeutically effective  
20 amount of a compound according to the invention, in particular a compound according  
to Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the  
stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and a prodrug  
thereof

25 The compounds according to the invention, in particular the compounds  
according to Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts  
thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and the  
prodrugs thereof, or any subgroup or combination thereof may be formulated into  
various pharmaceutical forms for administration purposes. As appropriate compositions  
30 there may be cited all compositions usually employed for systemically administering  
drugs. To prepare the pharmaceutical compositions of this invention, an effective  
amount of the particular compound, optionally in addition salt form, as the active  
ingredient is combined in intimate admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable  
carrier, which carrier may take a wide variety of forms depending on the form of  
35 preparation desired for administration. These pharmaceutical compositions are  
desirable in unitary dosage form suitable, in particular, for administration orally,  
rectally, percutaneously, by parenteral injection or by inhalation. For example, in



preparing the compositions in oral dosage form, any of the usual pharmaceutical media may be employed such as, for example, water, glycols, oils, alcohols and the like in the case of oral liquid preparations such as suspensions, syrups, elixirs, emulsions and solutions; or solid carriers such as starches, sugars, kaolin, diluents, lubricants, binders, 5 disintegrating agents and the like in the case of powders, pills, capsules and tablets. Because of their ease in administration, tablets and capsules represent the most advantageous oral dosage unit forms in which case solid pharmaceutical carriers are obviously employed. For parenteral compositions, the carrier will usually comprise sterile water, at least in large part, though other ingredients, for example, to aid 10 solubility, may be included. Injectable solutions, for example, may be prepared in which the carrier comprises saline solution, glucose solution or a mixture of saline and glucose solution. Injectable suspensions may also be prepared in which case appropriate liquid carriers, suspending agents and the like may be employed. Also included are solid form preparations that are intended to be converted, shortly before 15 use, to liquid form preparations. In the compositions suitable for percutaneous administration, the carrier optionally comprises a penetration enhancing agent and/or a suitable wetting agent, optionally combined with suitable additives of any nature in minor proportions, which additives do not introduce a significant deleterious effect on the skin. Said additives may facilitate the administration to the skin and/or may be 20 helpful for preparing the desired compositions. These compositions may be administered in various ways, e.g., as a transdermal patch, as a spot-on, as an ointment.

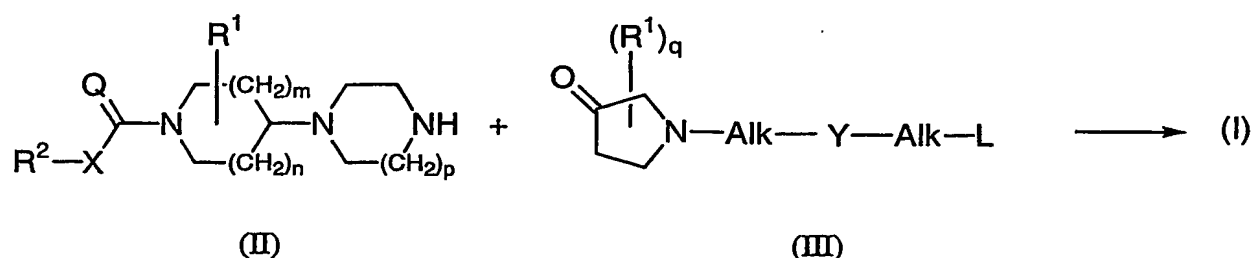
It is especially advantageous to formulate the aforementioned pharmaceutical compositions in unit dosage form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. 25 Unit dosage form as used herein refers to physically discrete units suitable as unitary dosages, each unit containing a predetermined quantity of active ingredient calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. Examples of such unit dosage forms are tablets (including scored or coated tablets), capsules, pills, powder packets, wafers, suppositories, injectable solutions or 30 suspensions and the like, and segregated multiples thereof.

Since the compounds according to the invention are potent orally administrable  $NK_1/NK_3$  antagonists, pharmaceutical compositions comprising said compounds for administration orally are especially advantageous.

# Synthesis

The compounds according to the invention can generally be prepared by a succession of steps, each of which is known to the skilled person.

5 The final compounds of Formula (I) are conveniently prepared by reductively *N*-alkylating an intermediate compound of Formula (II) with an intermediate compound of Formula (III). Said reductive *N*-alkylation may be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as, for example, dichloromethane, ethanol or toluene or a mixture thereof, and in the presence of an appropriate reducing agent such as, for example, a  
10 borohydride, e.g. sodium borohydride, sodium cyanoborohydride or triacetoxy borohydride. In case a borohydride is used as a reducing agent, it may be convenient to use a complex-forming agent such as, for example, titanium(IV)isopropylate as described in J. Org. Chem, 1990, 55, 2552-2554. Using said complex-forming agent may also result in an improved *cis/trans* ratio in favour of the *trans* isomer. It may also  
15 be convenient to use hydrogen as a reducing agent in combination with a suitable catalyst such as, for example, palladium-on-charcoal or platinum-on-charcoal. In case hydrogen is used as reducing agent, it may be advantageous to add a dehydrating agent to the reaction mixture such as, for example, aluminium *tert*-butoxide. In order to prevent the undesired further hydrogenation of certain functional groups in the reactants and the reaction products, it may also be advantageous to add an appropriate catalyst-  
20 poison to the reaction mixture, e.g., thiophene or quinoline-sulphur. Stirring and optionally elevated temperatures and/or pressure may enhance the rate of the reaction.

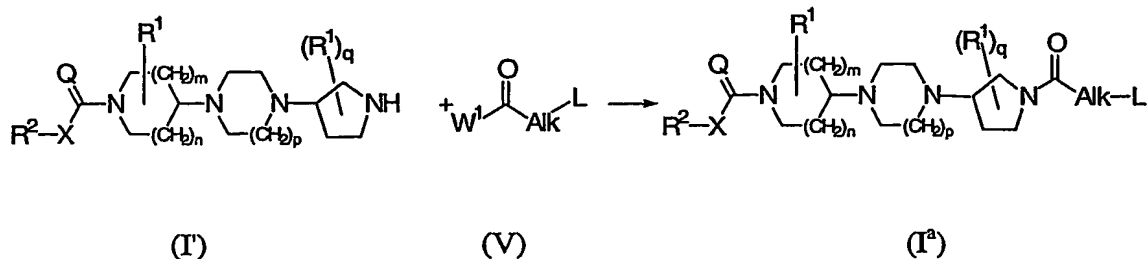


25 In this and the following preparations, the reaction products may be isolated from the reaction medium and, if necessary, further purified according to methodologies generally known in the art such as, for example, extraction, crystallization, trituration and chromatography.

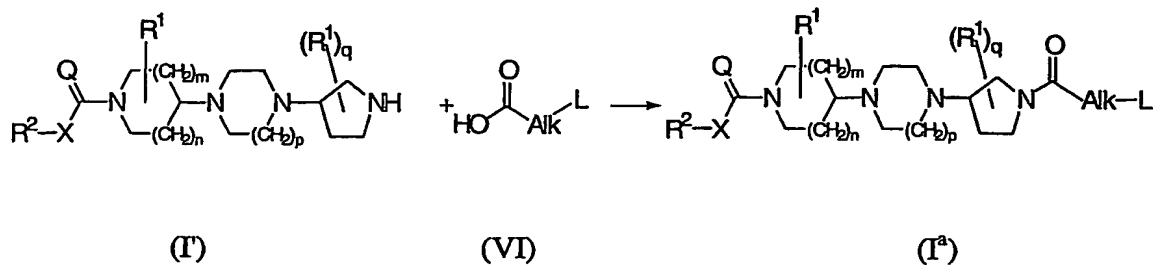
30 Especially advantageous is the preparation of a final compound according to Formula (I) according to the previously mentioned reaction scheme in which the Alk-

Y-Alk-L-moiety is benzyl, thus giving rise to a compound according to Formula (I) in which the Alk-Y-Alk-L-moiety is benzyl. Said final compound is pharmacologically active and can be converted into a final compound according to the invention in which the Alk-Y-Alk-L-moiety is hydrogen by reductive hydrogenation using e.g. hydrogen as a reducing agent in combination with a suitable catalyst such as, for example, palladium-on-charcoal or platinum-on-charcoal. The resulting final compound according to the invention can then be converted into other compounds according to Formula (I) by art-known transformations, e.g. acylation and alkylation.

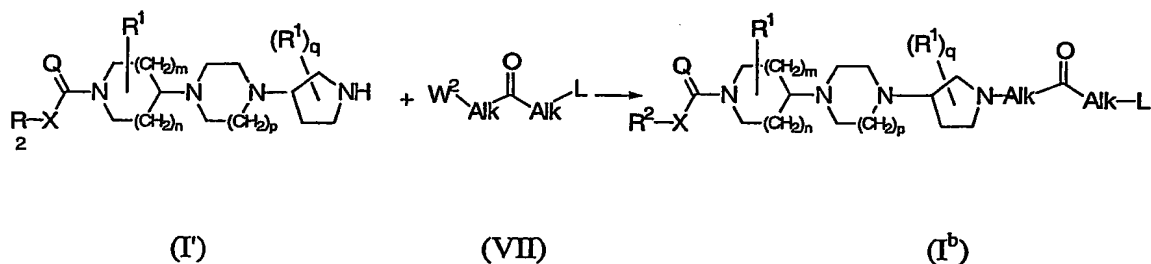
In particular, the final compounds of Formula (I<sup>a</sup>) can be prepared by reacting a final compound of Formula (I') with an intermediate compound of Formula (V) wherein W<sup>1</sup> is an appropriate leaving group such as, for example, a halogen, e.g. chloro or bromo, or a sulfonyloxy leaving group, e.g. methanesulfonyloxy or benzenesulfonyloxy. The reaction can be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as, for example, a chlorinated hydrocarbon, e.g. dichloromethane or a ketone, e.g. methyl isobutylketone, and in the presence of a suitable base such as, for example, sodium carbonate, sodium hydrogen carbonate or triethylamine. Stirring may enhance the rate of the reaction. The reaction may conveniently be carried out at a temperature ranging between room temperature and reflux temperature.



Alternatively, the final compounds of Formula (I<sup>a</sup>) can also be prepared by reacting a final compound of Formula (I') with a carboxylic acid of Formula (VI). The reaction can be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as, for example, a chlorinated hydrocarbon, e.g. dichloromethane, in the presence of a suitable base such as, for example, sodium carbonate, sodium hydrogen carbonate or triethylamine and in the presence of an activator, such as e.g. DCC (dicyclohexylcarbodiimide), CDI (carbonyldiimidazole) and EDCI (1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide.HCl). Stirring may enhance the rate of the reaction. The reaction may conveniently be carried out at a temperature ranging between room temperature and reflux temperature.

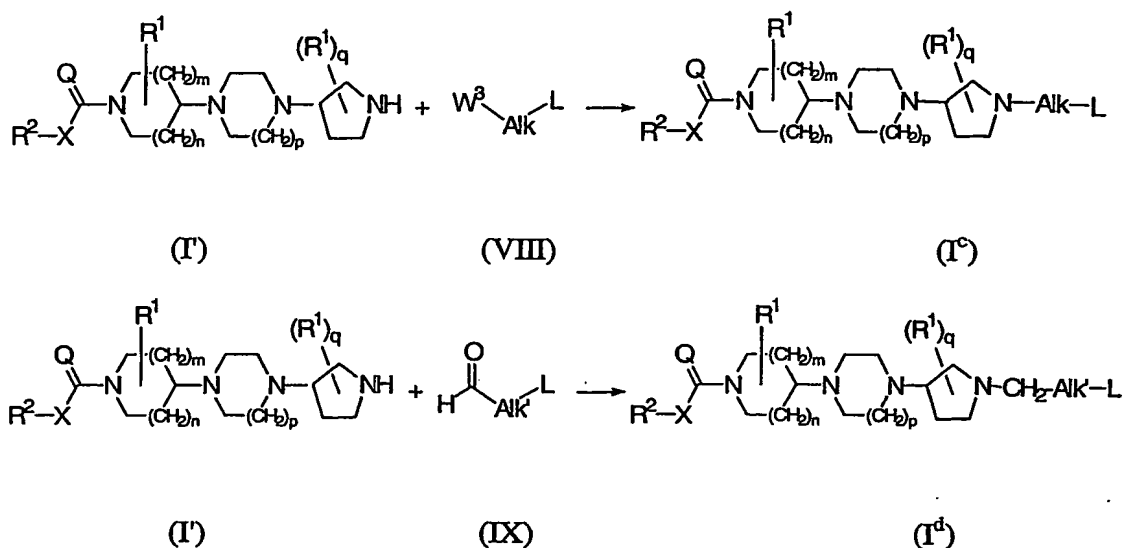


In particular, the final compounds of Formula (I<sup>b</sup>) can be prepared by reacting a final compound of Formula (I') with a compound of Formula (VII) wherein W<sup>2</sup> is an appropriate leaving group such as, for example, a halogen, e.g. chloro or bromo, or a sulfonyloxy leaving group, e.g. methanesulfonyloxy or benzenesulfonyloxy. The reaction can be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as, for example, a chlorinated hydrocarbon, e.g. dichloromethane, an alcohol, e.g. ethanol, or a ketone, e.g. methyl isobutylketone, and in the presence of a suitable base such as, for example, sodium carbonate, sodium hydrogen carbonate or triethylamine. Stirring may enhance the rate of the reaction. The reaction may conveniently be carried out at a temperature ranging between room temperature and reflux temperature.



The final compounds of Formula (I<sup>c</sup>) and Formula (I<sup>d</sup>) can be prepared either by reductive amination or alkylation of a final compound of Formula (I') with either a compound of Formula (VIII) or (IX) wherein W<sup>3</sup> in Formula (VIII) is an appropriate leaving group such as, for example, a halogen, e.g. chloro or bromo, or a sulfonyloxy leaving group, e.g. methanesulfonyloxy or benzenesulfonyloxy and wherein Alk in Formula (I<sup>d</sup>) is defined as -CH<sub>2</sub>-Alk'. The reaction can be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as, for example, a chlorinated hydrocarbon, e.g. dichloromethane, an alcohol, e.g. ethanol, or a ketone, e.g. methyl isobutylketone, and in the presence of a suitable base such as, for example, sodium carbonate, sodium hydrogen carbonate or triethylamine. Stirring may enhance the rate of the reaction. The reaction may

conveniently be carried out at a temperature ranging between room temperature and reflux temperature.



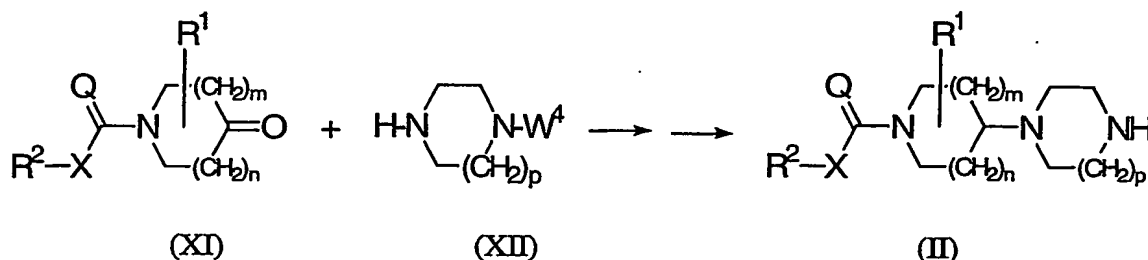
5        The starting materials and some of the intermediates are known compounds and are commercially available or may be prepared according to conventional reaction procedures generally known in the art. For example, intermediate compounds of Formula (II) may be prepared by reductively *N*-alkylating an intermediate compound of Formula (XI) with an intermediate compound of Formula (XII) in which W<sup>4</sup> is a benzyl radical, after which the resulting compound is subsequently reduced to yield an

10        intermediate compound according to Formula (II). Said reductive *N*-alkylation may be performed in a reaction-inert solvent such as, for example, dichloromethane, ethanol, toluene or a mixture thereof, and in the presence of an appropriate reducing agent such as, for example, a borohydride, e.g. sodium borohydride, sodium cyanoborohydride or triacetoxy borohydride. In case a borohydride is used as a reducing agent, it may be

15        convenient to use a complex-forming agent such as, for example, titanium(IV)isopropylate as described in J. Org. Chem, 1990, 55, 2552-2554. Using said complex-forming agent may also result in an improved *cis/trans* ratio in favour of the *trans* isomer. It may also be convenient to use hydrogen as a reducing agent in combination

20        with a suitable catalyst such as, for example, palladium-on-charcoal or platinum-on-charcoal. In case hydrogen is used as reducing agent, it may be advantageous to add a dehydrating agent to the reaction mixture such as, for example, aluminium *tert*-butoxide. In order to prevent the undesired further hydrogenation of certain functional groups in the reactants and the reaction products, it may also be advantageous to add an

appropriate catalyst-poison to the reaction mixture, e.g., thiophene or quinoline-sulphur. Stirring and optionally elevated temperatures and/or pressure may enhance the rate of the reaction.



5

The preparation of intermediate compounds (XI) and (XII) and other intermediates is described in WO 97/16440-A1, published May 9, 1997 by Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V, which is disclosed herein by reference as well as in other publications mentioned in WO 97/16440-A1, such as , e.g. EP-0,532,456-A.

10

The following examples are intended to illustrate but not to limit the scope of the present invention.

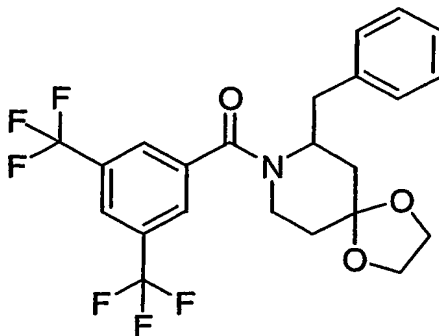
#### Experimental Part

15 Hereinafter "RT" means room temperature, "THF" means tetrahydrofuran, "DIPE" means diisopropylether, "DCM" means dichloromethane, "DMF" means *N,N*-dimethylformamide and "MIK" means methyl isobutyl keton.

#### A. Preparation of the intermediate compounds

##### 20 Example A1

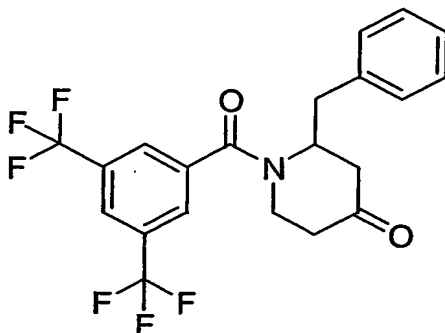
##### a. Preparation of intermediate compound 1



$\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (0.55 mol) was added to a stirring mixture of 7-(phenylmethyl)-1,4-dioxaspiro[4.5]decane (0.5 mol) in toluene (1500ml). 3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl chloride (0.5 mol) was added over a 1-hour period (exothermic reaction). The mixture

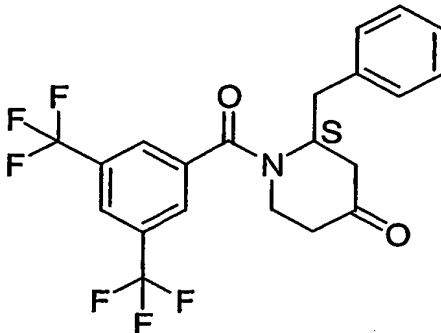
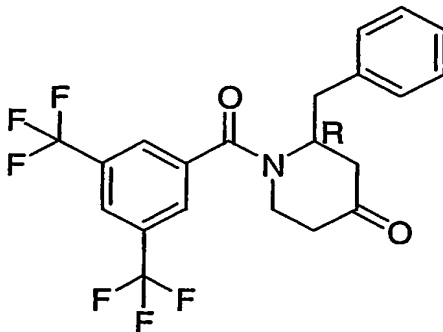
was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours, then allowed to stand for the weekend and washed three times with water (500ml, 2x250ml). The organic layer was separated, dried, filtered and the solvent was evaporated. Yielding: 245g (100%). Part of this fraction was crystallized from petroleum ether. The precipitate was filtered off and dried. Yielding: 1.06 g of intermediate compound 1.

b1. Preparation of  
intermediate compound 2



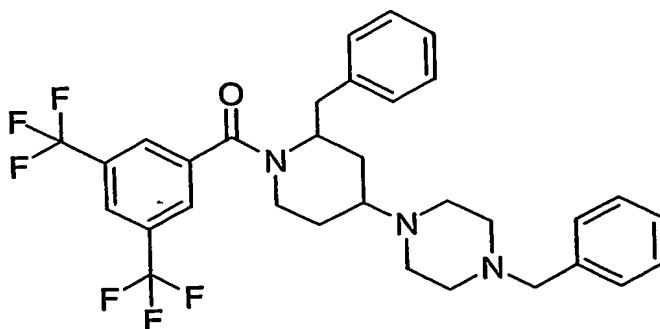
HCl cp (300 ml) was added to a mixture of intermediate compound 1 (0.5 mol) in ethanol (300 ml) and H<sub>2</sub>O (300 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 20 hours. The precipitate was filtered off, ground, stirred in H<sub>2</sub>O, filtered off, washed with petroleum ether and dried. Yielding: 192 g of intermediate compound 2 ((+)-1-[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl]-2-(phenylmethyl)-4-piperidinone) (89.4%) (mixture of R and S enantiomers).

b2. Preparation of  
intermediate compound 10  
and intermediate compound  
11.



Intermediate compound 2 was separated into its optical isomers by chiral column chromatography over Chiralpak (CHIRALPAK AS 1000 Å 20 mm (DAICEL); eluent: hexane/2-propanol 70/30). Two product fractions were collected and each solvent was evaporated. Yield Fraction 1: 32.6 g of intermediate compound 10 (R), and Fraction 2:  
 5 30.4 g of intermediate compound 11 (S).

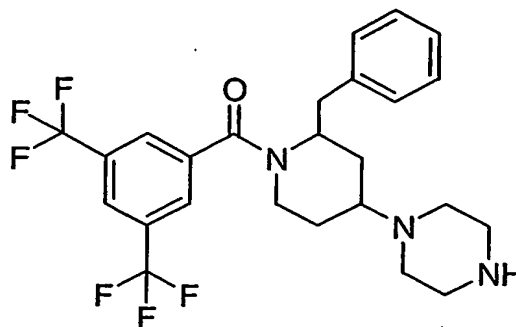
c. Preparation of  
intermediate compound 3



A mixture of intermediate compound 2 (0.046 mol), 1-(phenylmethyl)piperazine (0.051 mol) and Ti-isopropoxide (0.056 mol) was stirred for 2 hours at 40 °C. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Ethanol, p.a. (350 ml) was added. NaBH<sub>4</sub>  
 10 (0.138 mol) was added. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred for one hour at room temperature, then for one hour at 50 °C. More NaBH<sub>4</sub> (5.2 g) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours at 50 °C. Again, NaBH<sub>4</sub> was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, then for 2 hours at 50 °C.  
 15 Water (10 ml) was added. The mixture was stirred for 15 min. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (200 ml) was added and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. The organic phase was separated, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), dicalite was added, the mixture was filtered over dicalite, and the filtrate was evaporated. This fraction was separated into (CIS) and (TRANS) by column chromatography over silica gel. The desired (TRANS)-fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated, giving 14.8 g of residue ((I), 1.06% (CIS)) and 4.9 g of residue  
 20 ((II), 6% (CIS)). Resolution and purification of those (TRANS)-fractions (± 20 g in total) was obtained by chromatography over stationary phase Chiralcel OD (1900Gr) in Prochrom LC110 35 bar (eluent: hexane/ethanol 90/10). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. Yielding: 9.5 g of intermediate compound 3  
 25 1-piperazinyl]piperidine.



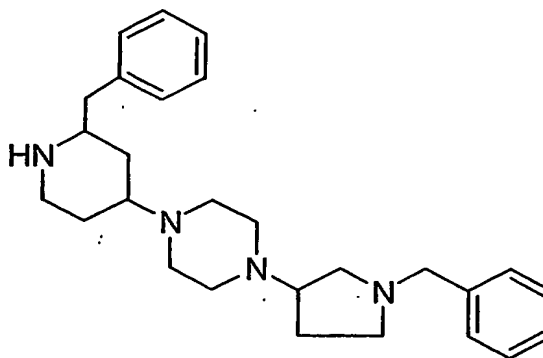
d. Preparation of  
intermediate compound 4



A mixture of intermediate compound 3 (0.288 mol) in methanol (700 ml) was hydrogenated at 40 °C with Pd/C, 10% (5 g) as a catalyst. After uptake of H<sub>2</sub> (1 equiv), the catalyst was filtered off and the filtrate was evaporated. Yielding: 141.2 g of intermediate compound 4 (+)-(2R-trans)-1-[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl]-2-(phenylmethyl)-4-(1-piperazinyl)piperidine.

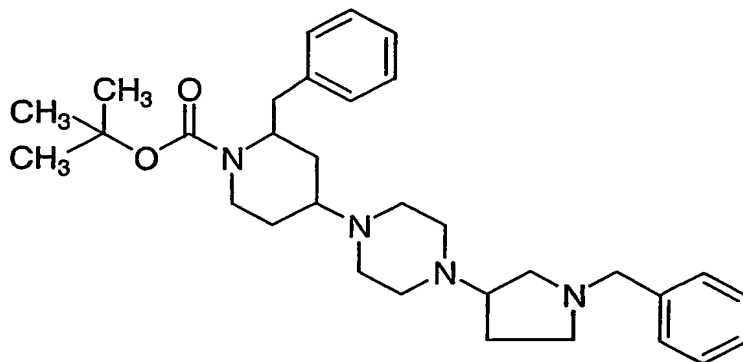
Example A2

a. Preparation of  
intermediate compound 5



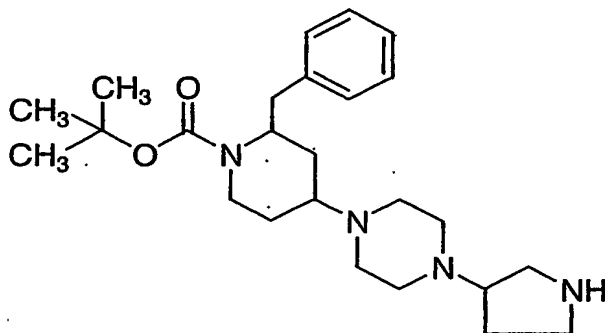
A mixture of final compound 1 (prepared according to B1a) (0.03 mol) in *i*PrOH (150 ml) and KOH (0.3 mol) was stirred and refluxed for 18 hours. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was taken up in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O. The layers were separated. The organic layer was dried and filtered. The solvent was evaporated and the residue purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/(MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub>) 95/5 to 90/10). The product fractions were collected and the solvent evaporated. Yield: 12 g of intermediate compound 5.

b. Preparation of  
intermediate compound 6



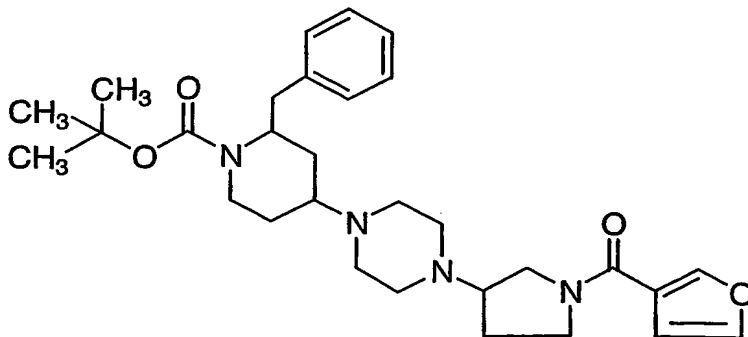
5 A mixture of intermediate compound 5 (0.029 mol) in bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)-dicarbonic acid ester (0.035 mol) was stirred 18 hours at room temperature. The solvent was evaporated for 30 minutes at 50-60°C. The residue was taken up in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O and NaOH. The organic layer was separated, washed with water, dried and the solvent evaporated. The residue was suspended in toluene, then the solvent was evaporated. Yield : 15.5 g of intermediate compound 6.

c. Preparation of  
intermediate compound 7



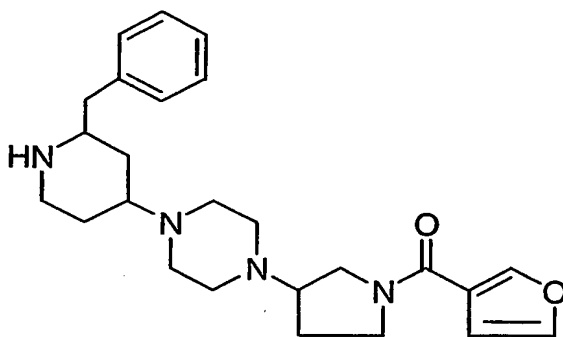
10 A mixture of intermediate compound 6 (0.03 mol), Pd/C, 10% (2g), H<sub>2</sub> (1 eq) in methanol (250 ml) was stirred. After uptake of H<sub>2</sub> (1 equiv), the catalyst was filtered off and the filtrate was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/(MeOH/NH<sub>3</sub>) 90/10 to 85/15). The product fractions were collected and suspended in petroleum ether, filtered and dried. Yield: 11.6 g of intermediate compound 7.

d. Preparation of  
intermediate compound 8



- 5 A mixture of 3-furancarboxylic acid (0.033 mol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (100 ml) and 1,1'-carbonylbis-1*H*-imidazole (0.033 mol) was stirred for 3 hours at room temperature. Intermediate compound 7 (0.027 mol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (100 ml) was added and stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was washed with aqueous NaOH, with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , dried and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent:  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$ ) 98/2 to 90/10). The product fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was crystallized from DIPE. The solid was dried. Yield : 7.83 g of intermediate compound 8

e. Preparation of intermediate compound 9

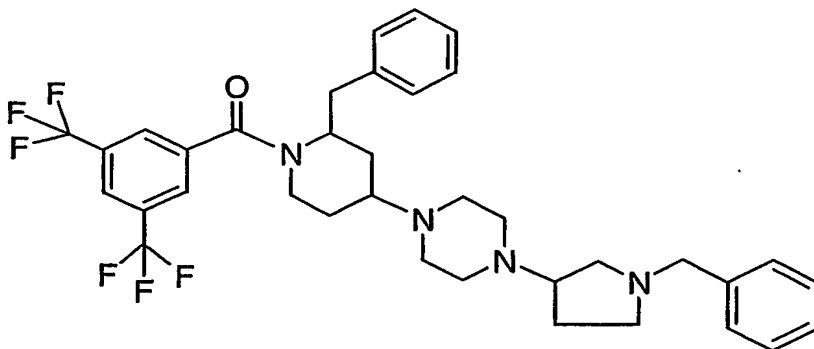


- 10 *i*PrOH.HCl (3 ml) was added to a mixture of intermediate compound 8 (1 g) in *i*PrOH (30 ml). The mixture was stirred at 65°C for 90 minutes. The solvent was evaporated. The residue was suspended in DIPE. The precipitate was filtered and washed with DIPE. Yield : 0.93 g of intermediate compound 9.

B. Preparation of the final compounds

15 Example B1

a) Preparation of final compound 1

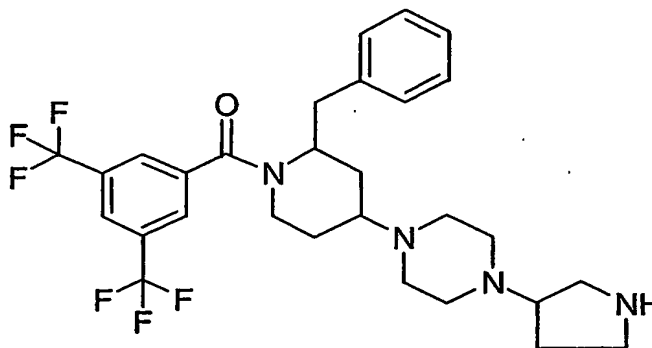


- 20 A mixture of (2*R*-trans) 1-[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl]-2-(phenylmethyl)-4-(1-piperazinyl)piperidine [intermediate compound 3] (0.05 mol) and 1-(phenylmethyl)-3-pyrrolidinone (0.05 mol) in methanol (250ml) was hydrogenated at 50°C with Pd/C 10% (3g) as a catalyst in the presence of a thiophene solution (2ml). After uptake of  $\text{H}_2$  (1 equiv), the catalyst was filtered off and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent :  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$ )

100/0;99/1;98/2;96/4). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. This fraction was recrystallized from DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with DIPE and dried (vacuum;50°C). Yield : 16.8g (49%) of final compound 1.

5

b) Preparation of final compound 2

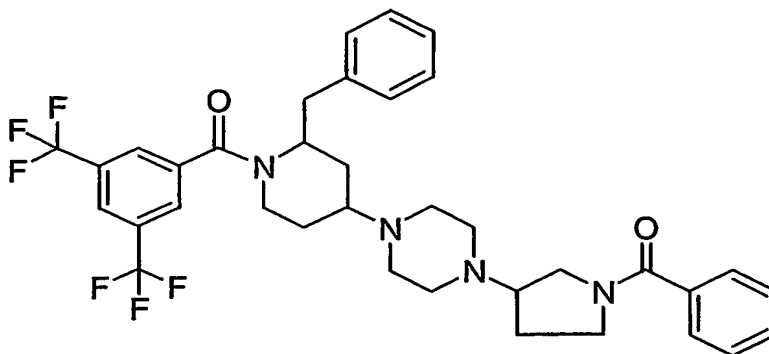


Final compound 1 (0.022 mol) in methanol (250ml) was hydrogenated with Pd/C 10% (2g) as a catalyst. After uptake of H<sub>2</sub> (1 equiv), the catalyst was filtered off and the solvent was evaporated. This fraction was triturated under DIPE. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with DIPE and dried (vacuum; 50°C; 3 days). Yield : 11.58g (92%) of final compound 2.

10

Example B2

Preparation of final compound 3



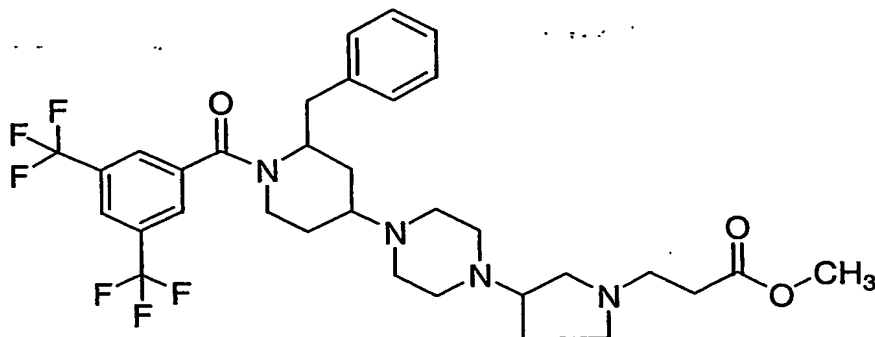
A mixture of final compound 2 (0.0016 mol), benzoylchloride (0.0018 mol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.0018 mol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50ml) was stirred at room temperature for 3 hours. The reaction mixture was washed with aq. diluted NaOH solution. The separated organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. This fraction was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent : CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 100/0 to 90/10). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was dried (vacuum; 50°C). Yield : 0.410g of final compound 3.

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Example B3

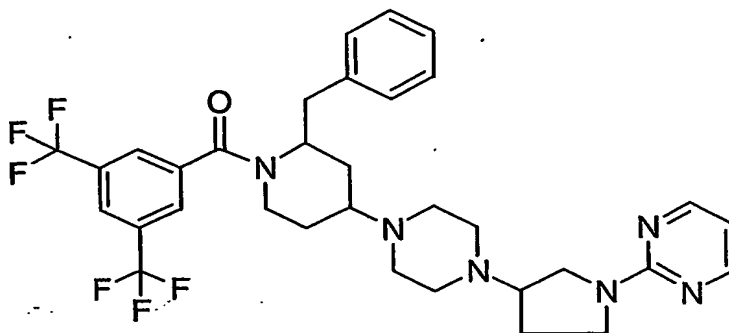
Preparation of final  
compound 80



A mixture of final compound 2 (0.0017 mol), methyl acrylate (0.0019 mol) in methanol (50 ml) was stirred overnight at room temperature. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent : CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 100/0 to 90/10). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated.  
5 The residue was dried (vacuum, 50 °C). Yield : 0.266 g of final compound 80.

Example B4

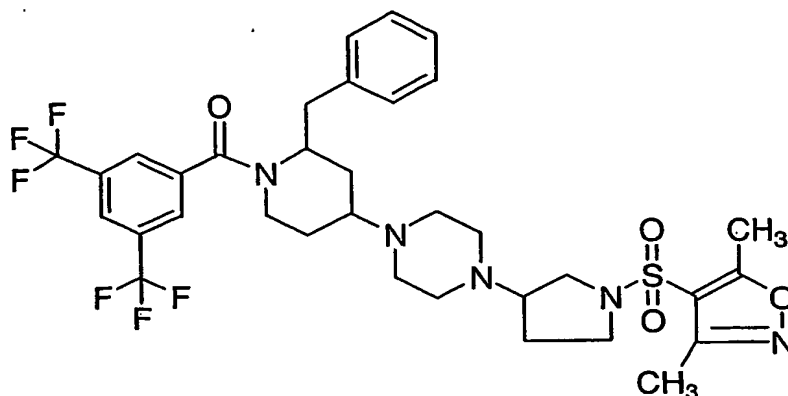
Preparation of final  
compound 5



A mixture of final compound 2 (0.003 mol), 2-chloropyrimidine (0.0033 mol) and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.004 mol) in ethanol p.a. (50ml) was stirred and refluxed for 8 hours, then the solvent was evaporated and the residue was taken up in H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The layers were separated, then the aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and the organic layer was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and filtered. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>OH from 100/0 to 90/10). The product fractions were collected and the solvent was evaporated. Yield: 1.378g of final compound 5.  
10  
15

Example B5

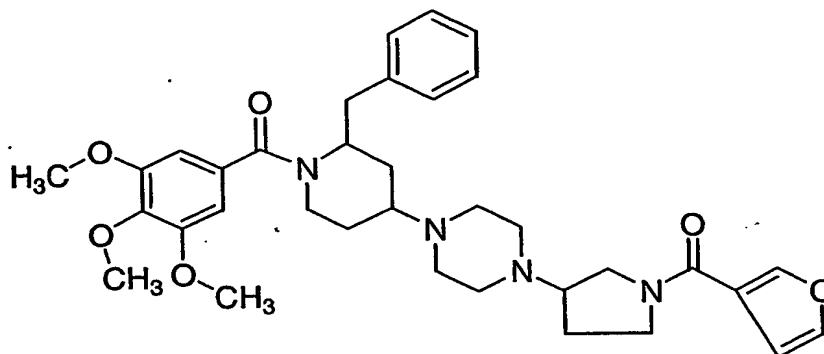
Preparation of final  
compound 79



- A mixture of final compound 2 (0.002 mol), sulfonylchloride (0.002 mol) and  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (0.005 mol) was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography over silicagel (eluent  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$  95/5). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent evaporated. The residu was dried at 50°C. Yield : 0.98g of final compound 79.

Example B6

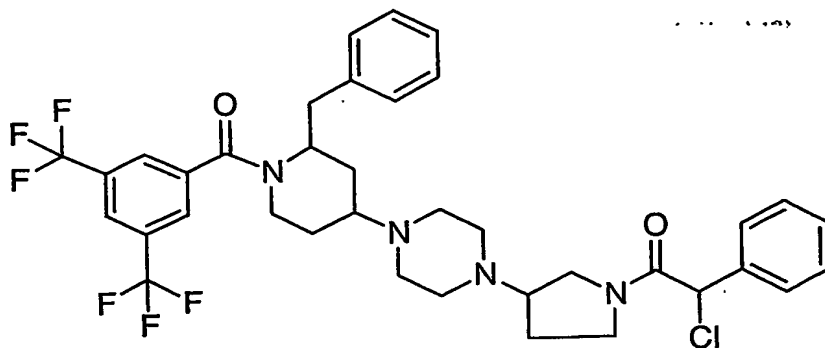
Preparation of final  
compound 81



- A mixture of intermediate compound 9 (prepared according to A2e) (0.0005 mol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (25ml), 3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoylchloride (0.0006 mol) and  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (1ml) was stirred for 3 hours. The reaction mixture was washed with diluted  $\text{NaOH}$  during 30 minutes, then washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , dried and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent:  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$  98/2; 90/10). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent evaporated.
- Yield: 0.114g of final compound 81.

Example B7

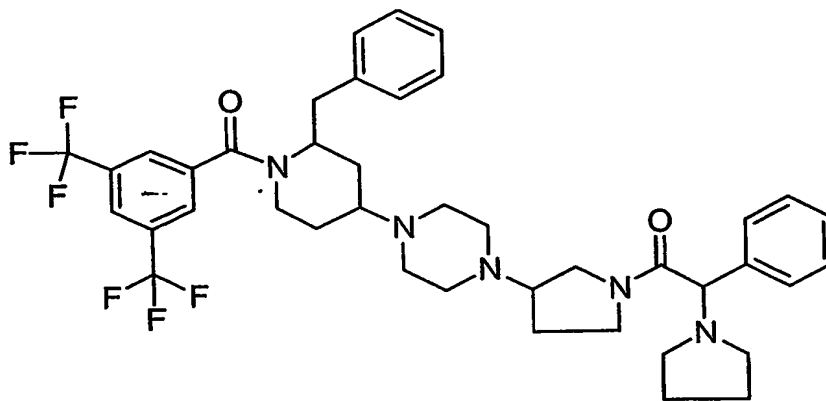
Preparation of final  
compound 104



- 5 Final compound 2 was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (100 ml). Alpha-chlorobenzeneacetyl chloride (0.01 mol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 18 hours at room temperature. The reaction mixture was washed with aqueous  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ . The organic layer was separated, dried and the solvent evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent:  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$  90/10). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent evaporated. Yield : 6 g of final compound 104.

10 Example B8

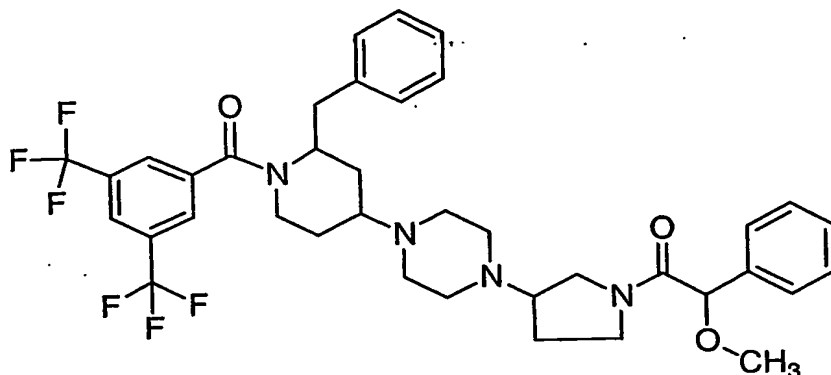
Preparation of final  
compound 108



- 15 A mixture of final compound 104 (prepared according to B7) (0.001 mol) and pyrrolidine (0.5g) was stirred overnight at a bath temperature of  $85^\circ\text{C}$ . The excess pyrrolidine was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent:  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$  80/20). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent evaporated. Yield : 0.194g of final compound 108.

Example B9

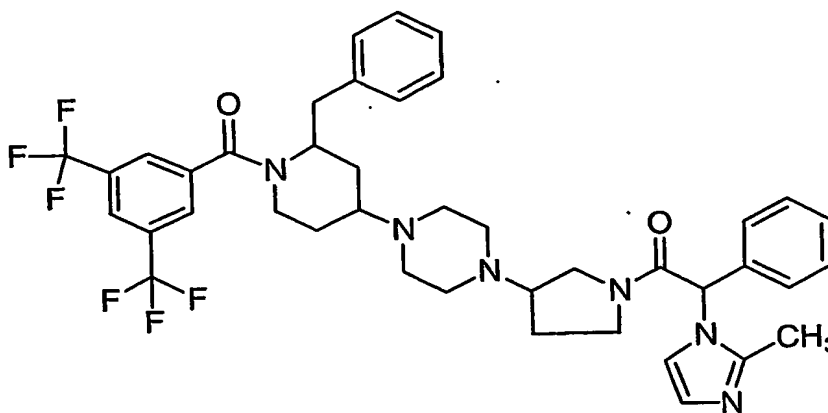
Preparation of final  
compound 109



- 5 Final compound 104 (prepared according to B7) (0.001 mol) was dissolved in methanol (5ml). NaOCH<sub>3</sub> (0.002 mol) was added and the mixture was stirred and refluxed for 48 hours. After 24 hours of stirring and refluxing once more NaOCH<sub>3</sub> (0.002 mol) was added. The reaction mixture was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 90/10). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent evaporated. Yield : 0.310g of final compound 109.

Example B10

Preparation of final  
compound 110



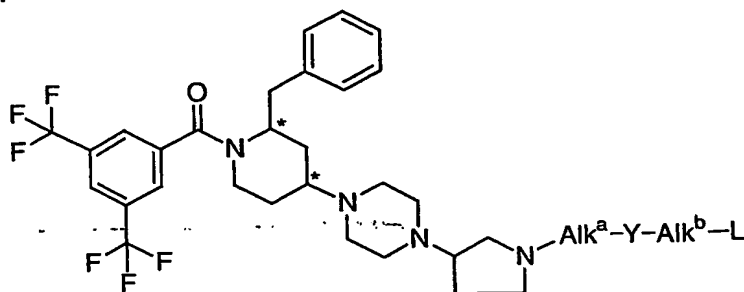
- 10 NaH (0.002 mol) was added to 2-methylimidazole (0.002 mol) in DMF (10 ml). To the mixture final compound 104 (prepared according to B7) (0.001 mol) diluted in DMF (5 ml) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Then the mixture was stirred for 18 hours at a temperature of 100°C. The solvent was evaporated. The residue was taken up in H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic layer was separated, dried and evaporated.
- 15 The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 100/0 to 80/20). The desired fractions were collected and the solvent evaporated. The residue was suspended in petroleum ether, filtered off and dried. Yield : 0.190g of final compound 110.



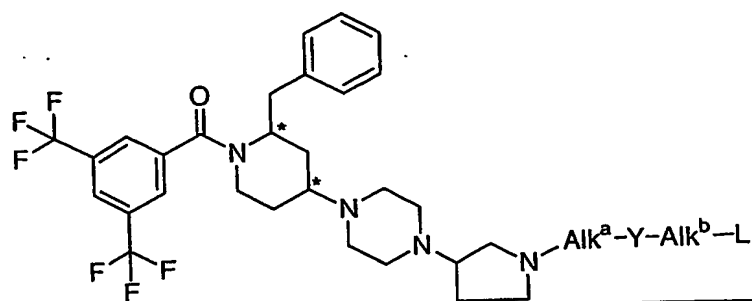
The final compounds exemplified in the following Table 1 were prepared in a manner analogous to one of the foregoing examples.

5

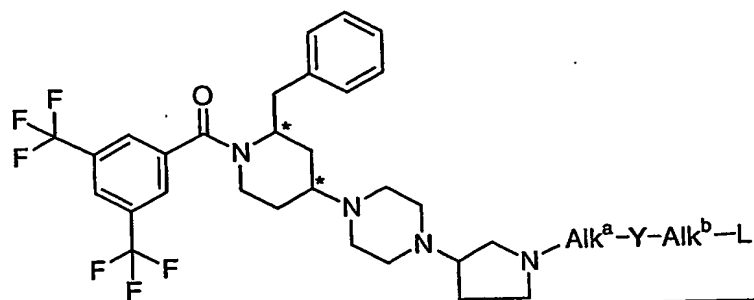
Table 1:



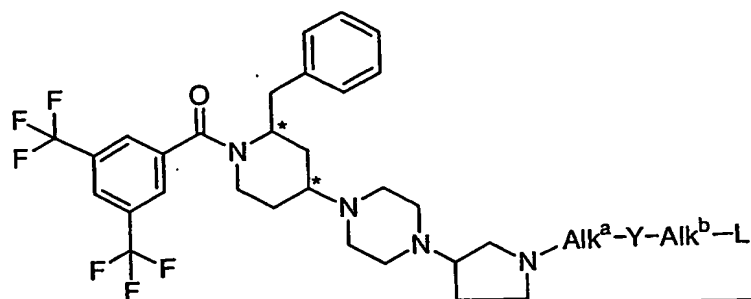
Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
2	B1b	cb	cb	cb	H	2R-trans
116	B1b	cb	cb	cb	H	2S-trans
117	B1b	cb	cb	cb	H	2R-cis
118	B1b	cb	cb	cb	H	2S-cis
4	B4	cb	cb	cb		2R-trans
5	B4	cb	cb	cb		2R-trans
6	B4	cb	cb	cb		2R-trans
7	B4	cb	cb	cb		2R-trans
8	B4	cb	cb	cb		2R-trans
1	B1a	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2R-trans
112	B1a	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2R-cis
113	B1a	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2S-trans
114	B1a	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2S-cis



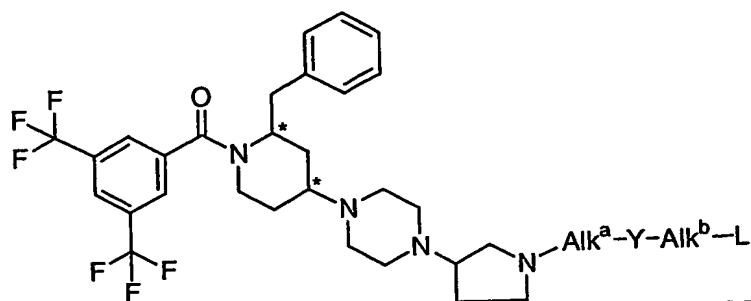
Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
9	B4	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2R-trans
10	B4	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2R-trans
11	B4	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2R-trans
130	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans OR2=-35.9°
145	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
3	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
127	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2S-trans OR2=+31.29°
136	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-cis OR1=-18.71°
12	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
13	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
14	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
15	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
16	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans



Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
17	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
87	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-cis OR1 = -17.97°
18	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
19	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
20	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
21	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
22	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
144	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans; S
115	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans; S
23	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
24	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
25	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans

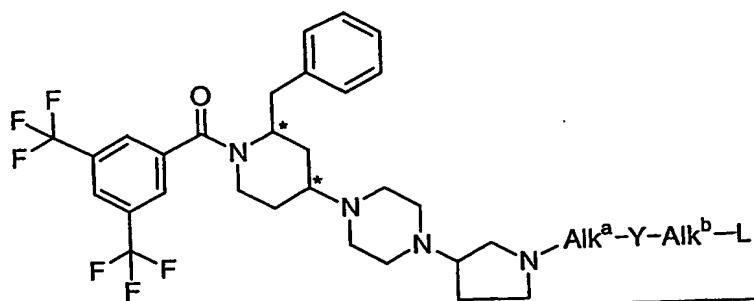


Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
26	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
27	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
28	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
29	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
30	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
31	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
129	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2S-trans OR2=+31.33°
139	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-cis OR1=-19.03°
32	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans A
33	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans B
34	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
128	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2S-trans OR2= +32.32
138	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-cis OR2= -19.02°
35	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans

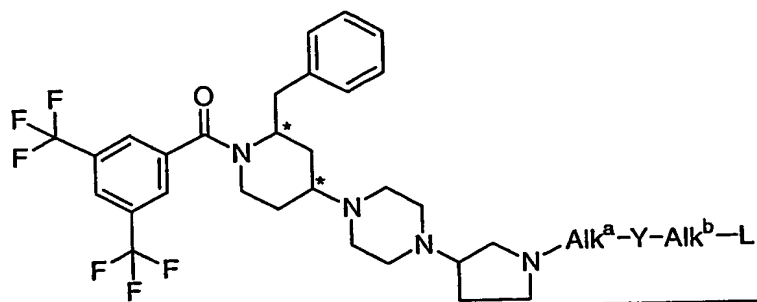


Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
36	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
37	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
38	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
39	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans A
40	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans B
41	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
42	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
43	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
44	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
45	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
46	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
47	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
48	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans

Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
49	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
50	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
51	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
125	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2S-trans OR2=+29.34°
52	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
53	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
54	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
55	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
56	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
57	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
58	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
59	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans

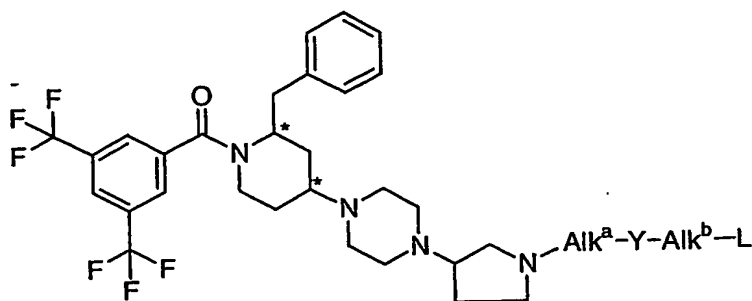


Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
60	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
61	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
62	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
63	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
64	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
68	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
97	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
98	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
99	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
65	B2	cb	C=O	-CH <sub>2</sub> -		2R-trans
66	B2	cb	C=O	-CH <sub>2</sub> -		2R-trans
67	B2	cb	C=O	-CH <sub>2</sub> -		2R-trans
69	B2	cb	C=O			2R-trans
104	B7	cb	C=O			2R-trans



Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
109	B9	cb	C=O			2R-trans
106	B8	cb	C=O			2R-trans
107	B8	cb	C=O			2R-trans
108	B8	cb	C=O			2R-trans
105	B8	cb	C=O			2R-trans
110	B10	cb	C=O			2R-trans
111	B10	cb	C=O			2R-trans
70	B2	cb	C=O		H	2R-trans A
71	B2	cb	C=O		H	2R-trans B
72	B2	cb	C=O		H	2R-trans
126	B2	cb	C=O		H	2S-trans OR2=+33.54°





Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
137	B2	cb	C=O		H	2R-cis OR1=-19.11°
73	B2	cb	C=O		H	2R,trans
74	B2	cb	C=O		H	2R-trans
75	B5	cb		cb		2R-trans
76	B5	cb		cb		2R-trans
77	B5	cb		cb		2R-trans
78	B5	cb		cb		2R-trans
79	B5	cb		cb		2R-trans
103	B5	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	C=O	cb		2R-trans
80	B3	-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> -	C=O	cb		2R-trans

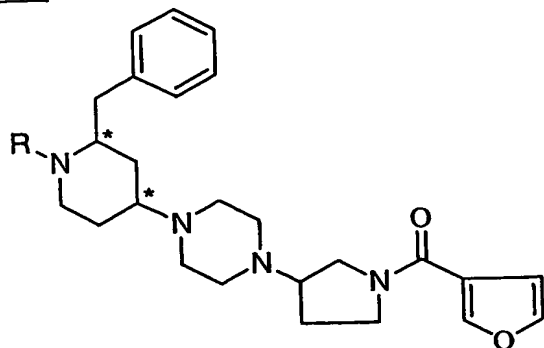
cb=covalent bond

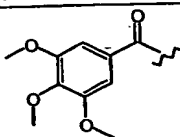
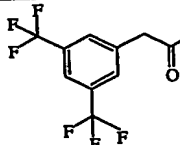
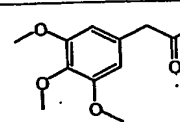
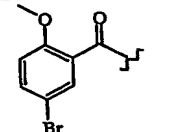
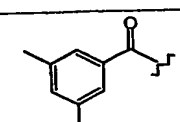
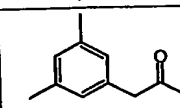
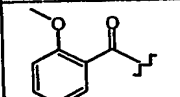
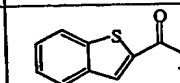
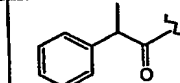
OR1 = Optical rotation at 589 nm in methanol at 20 C° (cell pathlength = 1 dm ;  
volume = 5 ml ; conc. = 0.5 mg/ml).

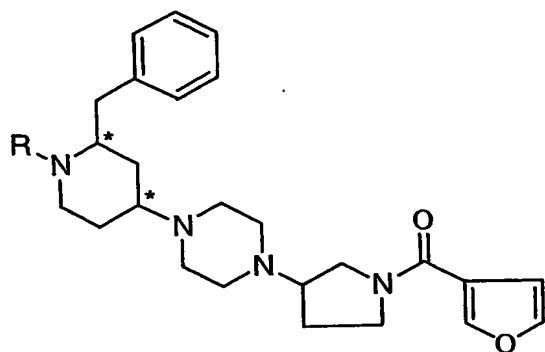
OR2 = Optical rotation at 365 nm in methanol at 20 C° (cell pathlength = 1 dm ;

5 volume = 5 ml ; conc. = 0.5 mg/ml).

Table 2:



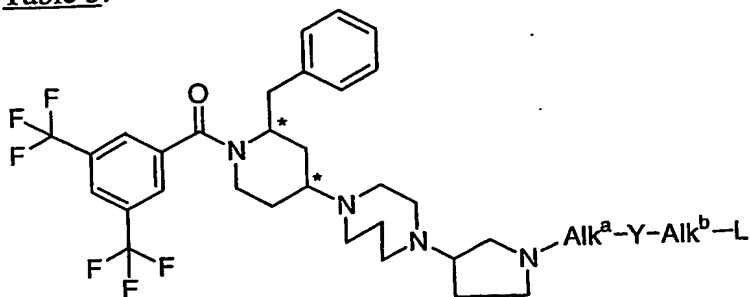
Comp. No	Exp. No.	R	Physical data
81	B6		2R-trans
82	B6		2R-trans
83	B6		2R-trans
84	B6		2R-trans
85	B6		2R-trans
86	B6		2R-trans
88	B6		2R-trans
89	B6		2R-trans
90	B6		2R-trans



Comp. No	Exp. No.	R	Physical data
91	B6		2R-trans
92	B6		2R-trans
93	B6		2R-trans
94	B6		2R-trans
95	B6		2R-trans
96	B6		2R-trans
100	B6		2R-trans
101	B6		2R-trans
102	B6		2R-trans

cb=covalent bond

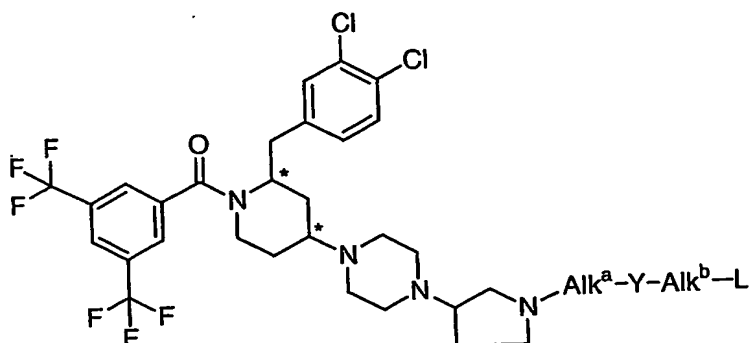
Table 3:



Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
120	B1b	cb	cb	cb	H	2S-trans
123	B1b	cb	cb	cb	H	2R-cis
133	B1b	cb	cb	cb	H	2R-cis+trans
119	B1a	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2R-trans
132	B1a	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2R-cis+trans
140	B1a	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	cb	cb		2R-cis
121	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
131	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-cis
122	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-cis
124	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans
134	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-cis
135	B2	cb	C=O	cb		2R-trans

cb=covalent bond

Table 4:



Comp. No.	Exp. No.	Alk <sup>a</sup>	Y	Alk <sup>b</sup>	L	Physical data
141	B2	cb	C=O	cb		cis
142	B5	cb		cb		cis
143	B2	cb	C=O		H	cis

cb=covalent bond

5

### C. Pharmacological example

#### Example C.1 : Binding experiment for h-NK<sub>1</sub>, h-NK<sub>2</sub> and h-NK<sub>3</sub> receptors

10 The compounds according to the invention were investigated for interaction with various neurotransmitter receptors, ion channels and transporter binding sites using the radioligand binding technique. Membranes from tissue homogenates or from cells, expressing the receptor or transporter of interests, were incubated with a radioactively labelled substance ([<sup>3</sup>H]- or [<sup>125</sup>I] ligand) to label a particular receptor. Specific receptor binding of the radioligand was distinguished from the non-specific membrane labelling

15 by selectively inhibiting the receptor labelling with an unlabelled drug (the blank), known to compete with the radioligand for binding to the receptor sites. Following incubation, labelled membranes were harvested and rinsed with excessive cold buffer to remove non-bound radioactivity by rapid filtration under suction. Membrane bound radioactivity was counted in a scintillation counter and results were expressed in counts

20 per minute (cpm).

The compounds were dissolved in DMSO and tested at 10 concentrations ranging from 10<sup>-10</sup> to 10<sup>-5</sup> M.

The ability of the compounds according to the invention to displace [ $^3$ H]-Substance P from cloned human h-NK<sub>1</sub> receptors expressed in CHO cells, to displace [ $^3$ H]-SR-48968 from cloned human h-NK<sub>2</sub> receptors expressed in Sf9 cells, and to displace [ $^3$ H]-SR-142801 from cloned human h-NK<sub>3</sub> receptors expressed in CHO cells was evaluated.

The pIC<sub>50</sub> data for the h-NK<sub>1</sub>, h-NK<sub>2</sub> and h-NK<sub>3</sub> receptor testing for a representative selection of compounds are presented in Table 3.

#### 10 Example C.2 : Signal transduction (ST)

This test evaluates in vitro functional NK<sub>1</sub> antagonistic activity. For the measurements of intracellular Ca<sup>++</sup> concentrations the cells were grown on 96-well (black wall/transparent bottom) plates from Costar for 2 days until they reached confluence. The cells were loaded with 2  $\mu$ M Fluo3 in DMEM containing 0.1% BSA and 2.5 mM probenecid for 1 h at 37°C. They were washed 3x with a Krebs buffer (140 mM NaCl, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, 5 mM KCl, 10 mM glucose, 5 mM HEPES; 1.25 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>; pH 7.4) containing 2.5 mM probenecid and 0.1 % BSA (Ca<sup>++</sup>-buffer). The cells were preincubated with a concentration range of antagonists for 20 min at RT and Ca<sup>++</sup>-signals after addition of the agonists were measured in a Fluorescence Image Plate Reader (FLIPR from Molecular Devices, Crawley, England). The peak of the Ca<sup>++</sup>-transient was considered as the relevant signal and the mean values of corresponding wells were analysed as described below.

The sigmoidal dose response curves were analysed by computerised curve-fitting, using the GraphPad Program. The EC<sub>50</sub>-value of a compound is the effective dose showing 50 % of maximal effect. For mean curves the response to the agonist with the highest potency was normalised to 100 %. For antagonist responses the IC<sub>50</sub>-value was calculated using non-linear regression.

The pIC<sub>50</sub> data for the signal transduction testing for a representative selection of compounds are presented in Table 3.

30 Table 3

Co.No	Receptor binding			Signal transduction		
	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>1</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>2</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>3</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>1</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>2</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>3</sub>
3	9,44	6,17	7,15	6,92		5,76
12	9,31	6,27	6,69	7,10	5,00	6,88
20	9,30	6,37	6,58	6,94		

Co.No	Receptor binding			Signal transduction		
	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>1</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>2</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>3</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>1</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>2</sub>	pIC <sub>50</sub> NK <sub>3</sub>
80	9,20	5,83	6,19	7,01		
28	9,02	5,94	6,37	7,31		
34	8,99	6,25	6,99	7,67	5,52	6,54
32	8,89	6,16	6,96	7,89	5,32	6,72
21	8,89		6,96	7,86		6,40
76	8,88		7,60	7,65	5,87	6,67
33	8,82	6,17	6,93	7,81	5,37	6,27
31	8,78		6,35	7,98	5,52	6,41
64	8,71		6,56	7,31	5,60	6,82
5	8,67		6,65	7,54	5,20	6,19
56	8,58		6,82	7,43	5,48	6,94
54	8,35		6,84	7,39	5,03	6,14
7	8,21		6,56	6,71	5,00	6,47
9				7,37		5,85
11				6,91		5,49
37				7,42		5,71
43				7,50		6,21
53				7,41		5,48
59				7,54		5,54
61				7,47		5,15
73				8,03		5,84
74				7,68		6,26

#### D. Composition examples

- “Active ingredient” (A.I.) as used throughout these examples relates to a compound of Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and prodrugs thereof.

#### Example D.1 : ORAL DROPS

- 500 Grams of the A.I. was dissolved in 0.5 l of 2-hydroxypropanoic acid and 1.5 l of the polyethylene glycol at 60~80°C. After cooling to 30~40°C there were added 35 l of polyethylene glycol and the mixture was stirred well. Then there was added a solution of 1750 grams of sodium saccharin in 2.5 l of purified water and while stirring there were added 2.5 l of cocoa flavor and polyethylene glycol q.s. to a volume of 50 l, providing an oral drop solution comprising 10 mg/ml of A.I. The resulting solution was filled into suitable containers.

#### Example D.2 : ORAL SOLUTION

9 Grams of methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate and 1 gram of propyl 4-hydroxybenzoate were dissolved in 4 l of boiling purified water. In 3 l of this solution were dissolved first 10 grams of 2,3-dihydroxybutanedioic acid and thereafter 20 grams of the A.I. The latter solution was combined with the remaining part of the former solution and 12 l 1,2,3-propanetriol and 3 l of sorbitol 70% solution were added thereto. 40 Grams of sodium saccharin were dissolved in 0.5 l of water and 2 ml of raspberry and 2 ml of gooseberry essence were added. The latter solution was combined with the former, water was added q.s. to a volume of 20 l providing an oral solution comprising 5 mg of the active ingredient per teaspoonful (5 ml). The resulting solution was filled in suitable containers.

#### Example D.3 : FILM-COATED TABLETS

##### Preparation of tablet core

A mixture of 100 grams of the A.I., 570 grams lactose and 200 grams starch was mixed well and thereafter humidified with a solution of 5 grams sodium dodecyl sulfate and 10 grams polyvinylpyrrolidone in about 200 ml of water. The wet powder mixture was sieved, dried and sieved again. Then there was added 100 grams microcrystalline cellulose and 15 grams hydrogenated vegetable oil. The whole was mixed well and compressed into tablets, giving 10.000 tablets, each containing 10 mg of the active ingredient.

##### Coating

To a solution of 10 grams methyl cellulose in 75 ml of denaturated ethanol there was added a solution of 5 grams of ethyl cellulose in 150 ml of dichloromethane. Then there were added 75 ml of dichloromethane and 2.5 ml 1,2,3-propanetriol. 10 Grams of polyethylene glycol was molten and dissolved in 75 ml of dichloromethane. The latter solution was added to the former and then there were added 2.5 grams of magnesium octadecanoate, 5 grams of polyvinylpyrrolidone and 30 ml of concentrated colour suspension and the whole was homogenated. The tablet cores were coated with the thus obtained mixture in a coating apparatus.

#### Example D.4 : INJECTABLE SOLUTION

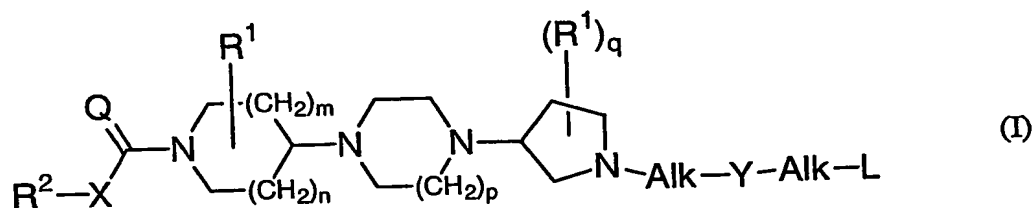
1.8 Grams methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate and 0.2 grams propyl 4-hydroxybenzoate were dissolved in about 0.5 l of boiling water for injection. After cooling to about 50°C there were added while stirring 4 grams lactic acid, 0.05 grams propylene glycol and 4 grams of the A.I.. The solution was cooled to room temperature and supplemented with water



for injection q.s. ad 1 l, giving a solution comprising 4 mg/ml of A.I.. The solution was sterilized by filtration and filled in sterile containers.

# CLAIMS

1. A compound according to the general Formula (I)



5

the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and prodrugs thereof, wherein :

- $n$  is an integer, equal to 0, 1 or 2 ;
- $m$  is an integer, equal to 1 or 2, provided that if  $m$  is 2, then  $n$  is 1 ;
- 10  $p$  is an integer equal to 1 or 2 ;
- $Q$  is O or  $NR^3$  ;
- $X$  is a covalent bond or a bivalent radical of formula -O-, -S- or  $-NR^3$ - ;
- each  $R^3$  independently from each other, is hydrogen or alkyl ;
- each  $R^1$  independently from each other, is selected from the group of  $Ar^1$ ,  $Ar^1$ -alkyl and di( $Ar^1$ )-alkyl ;
- 15  $q$  is an integer equal to 0 or 1 ;
- $R^2$  is alkyl,  $Ar^2$ ,  $Ar^2$ -alkyl, Het<sup>1</sup> or Het<sup>1</sup>-alkyl ;
- $Y$  is a covalent bond or a bivalent radical of formula -C(=O)- or -SO<sub>2</sub>- ;
- each Alk represents, independently from each other, a covalent bond ; a bivalent straight or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms ; or a cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms ; each radical optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more alkyl, phenyl, halo, cyano, hydroxy, formyl and amino radicals ;
- 20  $L$  is selected from the group of hydrogen, alkyloxy,  $Ar^3$ -oxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, mono- and di(alkyl)amino, mono- and di( $Ar^3$ )amino,  $Ar^3$ ,  $Ar^3$ carbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup> and Het<sup>2</sup>carbonyl ;
- $Ar^1$  is phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other, selected from the group of halo, alkyl, cyano, aminocarbonyl and alkyloxy ;
- 30  $Ar^2$  is naphthalenyl or phenyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other, selected from the group

of halo, nitro, amino, mono- and di(alkyl)amino, cyano, alkyl, hydroxy, alkyloxy, carboxyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl and mono- and di(alkyl)aminocarbonyl ;

Ar<sup>3</sup>

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is naphthalenyl or phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other, selected from the group of alkyloxy, alkyl, halo, hydroxy, pyridinyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, imidazo[1,2-

Het<sup>1</sup>

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a]pyridinyl, morpholinylcarbonyl, pyrrolidinylcarbonyl, amino and cyano ; is a monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the the group of pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl and pyridazinyl ; or a bicyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of quinolinyl, quinoxalinyl, indolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl and 4a,8a-dihydro-2H-chromenyl ; each heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted on any atom by a radical selected from the group of halo, oxo and alkyl ;

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Het<sup>2</sup>

20

is a monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of pyrrolidinyl, dioxolyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrrazolidinyl, piperidinyl, dioxyl, morpholinyl, dithianyl, thiomorpholinyl, piperazinyl, imidazolidinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, 2H-pyrrolyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolinyl, pyrrazolinyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl and triazinyl ; or a bicyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of benzopiperidinyl, quinolinyl, quinoxalinyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, chromenyl, benzimidazolyl, imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, benzo [1,2,5]oxadiazolyl, imidazo-[2,1-b]thiazolyl , 2,3-dihydrobenzo[1,4]dioxyl and octahydrobenzo-[1,4]dioxyl ; each radical optionally substituted with one or more radicals selected from the group of Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>1</sup>alkyl, halo, hydroxy, alkyl, piperidinyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, oxo, oxazolyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl and alkyloxycarbonyl ; and

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alkyl

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is a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radicals having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms ; optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more radicals selected from the group of phenyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, formyl and amino.

2. A compound according to claim 1, characterized in that
- n is 1 ;
  - m is 1 ;
  - 5 p is 1 or 2 ;
  - Q is O ;
  - X is a covalent bond ;
  - each R<sup>1</sup> is Ar<sup>1</sup> or Ar<sup>1</sup>-alkyl ;
  - q is 0 ;
  - 10 R<sup>2</sup> is Het<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup> or Ar<sup>2</sup>-alkyl ;
  - Y is a covalent bond or a bivalent radical of formula -C(=O)- or -SO<sub>2</sub>-;
  - each Alk represents, independently from each other, a covalent bond ; a bivalent straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms ; or a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms ; each radical optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more alkyl, phenyl or halo radicals ;
  - 15 L is selected from the group of hydrogen, alkyloxy, Ar<sup>3</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup> and Het<sup>2</sup>carbonyl ;
  - Ar<sup>1</sup> is phenyl, optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents, each independently from each other selected from the group of halo and alkyl ;
  - 20 Ar<sup>2</sup> is naphthalenyl or phenyl, each optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other, selected from the group of halo alkyl and alkyloxy ;
  - Ar<sup>3</sup> is naphthalenyl or phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents, each independently from each other selected from the group of alkyloxy, alkyl, halo and cyano ;
  - 25 Het<sup>1</sup> is benzothienyl, quinoxaliny, pyridinyl, indolyl or 4a,8a-dihydro-2H-chromenyl ; each heterocyclic radical may optionally be substituted on any atom by an alkyl or oxo radical ;
  - 30 Het<sup>2</sup> is a monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of pyrrolidinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, piperazinyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl and pyridazinyl ; or a bicyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group of quinoxaliny, indolyl, chromenyl, benzimidazolyl, imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl, benzothiazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzo[1,4]dioxine and
  - 35 octahydrobenzo[1,4]dioxine ; each radical optionally substituted with one

or more radicals selected from the group of  $\text{Ar}^1$ , halo, alkyl, oxo, alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl and alkyloxycarbonyl ; and

alkyl is a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms ; optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with one or more halo radicals.

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3. A compound according to any of claims 1-2, characterized in that  $\text{R}^1$  is  $\text{Ar}^1$  methyl and attached to the 2-position or  $\text{R}^1$  is  $\text{Ar}^1$  and attached to the 3-position.

10 4. A compound according to any of claims 1-3, characterized in that the  $\text{R}^2\text{-X-C(=Q)-}$  moiety is 3,5-di-(trifluoromethyl) phenylcarbonyl.

5. A compound according to any one of claims 1-4 for use as a medicine.

15 6. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-4 for the manufacture of a medicament for treating tachykinin mediated conditions.

20 7. The use of a compound according to claim 6 for the manufacture of a medicament for treating schizophrenia, depression, anxiety disorders, emesis and irritable bowel syndrome (IBS).

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and, as active ingredient, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1- 4.

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9. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8, characterized in that it is in a form suitable to be orally administered.

30 10. A process for preparing a composition as claimed in any one of claims 1-4, characterized in that a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is intimately mixed with a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1-4.

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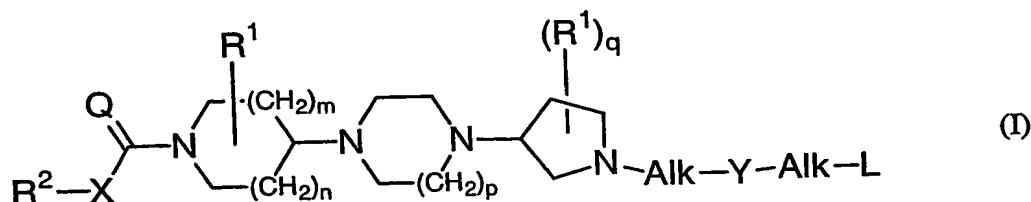
## Abstract

SUBSTITUTED 1-PIPERIDIN-4-YL-4-PYRROLIDIN-3-YL-PIPERAZINE  
DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE AS TACHYKININ ANTAGONISTS

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This invention concerns substituted 1-piperidin-4-yl-4-pyrrolidin-3-yl-piperazine derivatives having tachykinin antagonistic activity, in particular NK<sub>1</sub> antagonistic activity, more in particular a combined NK<sub>1</sub>/NK<sub>3</sub> antagonistic activity, their preparation, compositions comprising them and their use as a medicine, in particular for the treatment of schizophrenia, anxiety, depression, emesis and IBS.

The compounds according to the invention can be represented by general Formula (I)



and comprises also the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the *N*-oxide form thereof and prodrugs thereof, wherein all substituents are defined as in Claim 1.

In view of their capability to antagonize the actions of tachykinins by blocking the tachykinin receptors, and in particular antagonizing the actions of substance P and Neurokinin B by blocking the NK<sub>1</sub> and NK<sub>3</sub> receptors, the compounds according to the invention are useful as a medicine, in particular in the prophylactic and therapeutic treatment of tachykinin-mediated conditions, such as, for instance CNS disorders, in particular schizoaffective disorders, depression, anxiety disorders, stress-related disorders, sleep disorders, cognitive disorders, personality disorders, eating disorders, neurodegenerative diseases, addiction disorders, mood disorders, sexual dysfunction, pain and other CNS-related conditions ; inflammation ; allergic disorders ; emesis ; gastrointestinal disorders, in particular irritable bowel syndrome (IBS); skin disorders ; vasospastic diseases ; fibrosing and collagen diseases ; disorders related to immune enhancement or suppression and rheumatic diseases and body weight control.